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Historical Highlights

Of The

Village of Covington, Ohio

With 1953 Business Directory

By

Ralph E. Boggs
James L. Boggs

Historical Highlights

1800-1850

Village of Coalinga, Ohio

When Was Coalinga Founded?

COALINGA VILLAGE CO. INC.
OR
THE COALINGA TRUST

1800-1850

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March 5-1955

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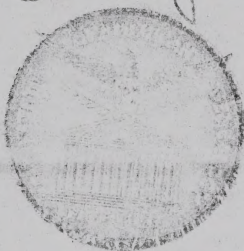
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The angry tantrum of Nature that raised the area now representing Ohio, from its lowly position as a hole in the bottom of the sea to its present altitude thrust upward countless peaks of vertical rock strata that constituted a gigantic Appalachian fence from present Maine to Georgia through which any successful westward migration to inland North America must find the gate.

The pre-glacial rivers that drained the west slope of this mountain wall flowed north to some such outlet as Hudson Bay or the Arctic Ocean and, if man had existed and could have explored North America from Europe at that time, these north flowing streams would have led settlement toward present Canada and the Arctic Regions, rather than to inland United States.

Ages before recorded history a very large river flowed in a northwest direction across what is now Shelby County. The headwaters of that river were on the western slopes of the mountains in West Virginia and Eastern Kentucky. Much of the rain that fell upon the area of present day Ohio finally found its way into the pre-glacial river, called Taeys.

Then came a time that the climate over much of the earth changed greatly for a long period or periods of time and the perpetual snow belt extended into lower latitudes, so that great accumulations of snow formed into glaciers and covered the greater portion of the State of Ohio. As the glacier piled up to a greater thickness, those ancient water courses were covered up as far as the glacier extended, and beyond the edge great lakes were formed, and when they became filled they broke over into other drainage systems. That was the period of time when the the Ohio River was created.

The great ice sheet, as it advanced from the Northwest, had a tendency to grind off the high places and to fill up the valleys; and when it finally disappeared, it left a mass of soil, gravel and boulders called glacial drift, that is less hilly than the southeastern part of Ohio which had not been affected as much by the glacier. It also left a surface drainage system here that flows generally south instead of the former one that flowed in a general northwest direction. Thus we find there were rivers and a river system cut far deeper in the rock of a former age than any we now have in this region.

THE MOUND BUILDERS, or his Mongoloid ancestor found a rear entrance to the Ohio Country and wandered about the

Mississippi and Ohio Valleys for perhaps ten centuries.

The Leni Lenape (Delawares) lived many hundred years ago far to the westward. They left their old home and migrated toward the rising sun, and after a very long journey they arrived at the shores of the Na Maesi Sippu or Messussipu (Great River or River of Fish). Their journey was slow and many nights (years) were passed on the way. The reconnoitering parties of the Leni Lenape reported that in the country to the East were many large towns on the great rivers which flowed through the land. The people were tall and stout. They called themselves Tallegewi or Alligewi. As the Leni Lenape pushed on some of the men of their Wetamowi (wise men) were attacked and killed and war resulted with the Tallegewi. This bloody strife continued for several generations. To the north were the Talamatan, who offered aid on the condition that they be in the division of the spoils. Great battles were fought. The Tallegewi fortified their towns and erected earthworks but many were slain and realizing that the contest would end in their annihilation, the remnant of the Tallegewi abandoned the country and fled to the southward. Scientists believe the Tallegewi or Allegewi are the same as the Cherokee Indians but this has never been proven.

THE AMERICAN INDIANS are a member of the Aboriginal American race and are now regarded as constituting one of the three races comprised in the Mongoloid stock. They are believed to have entered America in small groups by way of the Aleutian Islands over a period of several thousand years, roughly with the end of the Paleolithic Period and the beginning of the Neolithic Period. There has never been any definite relationship established between these Indians and the Mound Builder Indians. Eventually the Indian triumphed and the mound people were killed, driven away or absorbed by the conquering tribes.

In the oldest authentic accounts of white explorers, this county, and in fact all the territory in this part of the state was occupied by a tribe, or a confederacy of tribes known as the Miami Indians. Miami in the Indian language means "Mother", so this name is very appropriate to this "Mother of Tribes". The tribal totems of the Miamis were the Elk and Crane. There were several branches of this confederation occupying the greater part of Western Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and part of Michigan. One of these branch tribes, called "Twigtwees", had their town three miles north of Piqua. This village was ruled by a chief called "Old Britian". During the French and Indian War this section of Ohio seems to have been the dividing line between the contestants. Sometimes it was in the possession of the English,

allied with the Shawanoes (Shawnees), Cherokees, Delawares, Catawbas, Munseys and Senecas; and sometimes the French occupied it, having combined with the Miamis, Wyandots and Ottawas. This fighting, from 1752 until 1763, was kept up until the English and their allies were victorious. After this day the Shawanoes, with Black Hoof as chief, took possession of all the territory in the vicinity of Piqua.

There is no evidence tending to show that Newberry Township was a resort of the Indians or of their occupancy. Since the advent of the whites, none but hunting parties and encampments have been recorded. There was an encampment of Delawares about three miles north of Covington in 1812. In only one instance is it known that they injured the whites of Newberry Township, which was the killing of some cattle.

About a mile south of Covington, on the east bank of the Stillwater River, is a vaulted cave, which was once the stronghold of the Arrow Maker, a Teller of Tales. He probably came into this area after the French and Indian War, having been from the Shawanoe tribe, which was an ally of the English.

He was feared by many and understood by few. He was a giant in stature, and for many years was considered a myth, but records show that during the occupancy of Fort Rowdy he was killed by Trader Price. The Indians buried him at the cave, closing the entrance in Indian fashion. Doctors Coleman and Telford of Troy, Ohio; yearning of the giant's burial place, in October 1812, together with the soldiers of Fort Buchanan, repaired to the cave, exhumed the body and took it to Troy for student medical study. So passed Amokee, a Teller of Tales and Shawanoe Arrow Maker.

THE ENGLISH SETTLERS were content to remain on the Atlantic side of the Appalachian fence until the streams of German and Irish immigrants diluted the English strain in the blood of the colonists. As the tides of immigrants flowed in, the Germans and Irish, to find free land, had to push on beyond the settled valleys. Early journeys over the Appalachians were led by Col. William Mayo, Col. Abraham Wood and Doctor Thomas Walker, who first opened new routes over the mountain barrier.

What is now Ohio was at this time almost entirely covered with forests of oak, walnut, sycamore, maple, chestnut and beech with an under growth of lesser shrubs of dogwood, wild plum, crab apple, red bud, pawpaw, blueberry and raspberry, all intertwined with heavy hanging grapevines. Through this virgin forest came the first white expeditions. In 1749, a French expedition

under CELERON, which almost defined the present boundaries of Ohio, attempted to keep the English from settling the Ohio Country. Celeron completed a journey of about 3000 miles which took him to the Miami Indian town of Pickawillany where he dispersed the English traders. His trip, in the name of France, did not retard the English advance.

In 1750, the Ohio Company, which was formed in Virginia, instructed Christopher Gist to investigate the Ohio Country. During this journey one of his stops was at Pickawillany where he made a trade agreement with the Miami Indians and English traders.

The French, allied with the Miamis, Wyandots and Ottawas engaged in a war with the English in 1752 which lasted until 1763. The English were allied with the Shawanoes, Delawares, Cherokees, Carawbas, Munseys and Senecas and finally emerged victorious, thus driving the French farther into the northern part of the Ohio Country.

After the French and Indian War the Fort Stanwix treaty was formed in which the Delawares, Shawnees and Mingoes refused to sign, therefore creating the disturbances which started the Border Wars and led to a large expedition of frontiersmen under the command of George Rogers Clark, who was sent into the Shawnee country for the purpose of retaliation and for the destruction of the Indian villages and crops. It was in the summer of 1780 when Clark's army attacked the Shawnee town of Piqua, four miles west of Springfield, and after quite a battle the Indians were defeated, 500 acres of corn destroyed and the village burned. Clark then returned to Kentucky. Instead of Clark's expedition causing a cessation of hostilities, the Indians, embittered by defeat, became more aggressive in their plundering excursions. They became such a menace that in 1782 another expedition by General Clark was organized. Leaving Cincinnati, fording Mad River in Dayton, he marched up the east bank of the Miami River and crossed the stream about four miles below present Piqua, Ohio. The Indians were congregating at Piqua for a general pow wow and it seems that such was the terror inspired by the name of Clark that the Indians fled at his approach. After destroying everything possible Clark led his army back to Kentucky.

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR demolished the Proclamation Line of 1763, which gave the English all the territory east of the Mississippi, and ushered in a period of tremendous western expansion. Even while the fighting went on, a spirited migration

began to fill the upper reaches of the Ohio River Valley. In 1776 only about 5,000 Americans lived west of the Alleghenies and by 1790 there were over 100,000. One of the major achievements of the post war period was the famous Northwest Ordinance of 1787, the law which established a whole pattern of government for the western territories. The Ordinance provided that the territory was to be divided into not less than three nor more than five states, eventually, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin. It included an area of 1,887,850 square miles.

The desired effect of Clark's last expedition, however, was only temporary, and in a few years the Indians were again on the warpath. In 1790 General Harmar was ordered to proceed against the hostile tribes on the Miami and Wabash Rivers. He proceeded from Cincinnati up through Miami County on Clark's former route and marched on to Fort Wayne. Here he was defeated by the Indians under Chief Little Turtle.

In 1791 General St. Clair was appointed in command and marched against the Indians but while encamped on the Maumee River was attacked and defeated with a loss of 600 men.

George Washington then appointed "Mad Anthony" Wayne to plan and organize a campaign to counteract the obvious errors of the St. Clair debacle. Wayne organized an army in Pittsburgh in June of 1792 and spent nearly a year in drilling and equipping it. In 1793 Wayne's army left Cincinnati (Fort Washington) and pushed north into the Indian Country. He co-ordinated his advance by establishing forts and blockhouses, one of which was a log and earth breastwork, erected at the junction of Stillwater River and Greenville Creek, just north of the present Covington Water Works. This fort was called Fort Rowdy which proved to be a very strategic point along the important waterway. Canoes and flat boats carried supplies up the Miami River to Dayton, thence up the Stillwater River to Fort Rowdy, thence up Greenville Creek to Fort Greenville where Wayne went into winter quarters in 1793-1794.

Fort Rowdy, including the outposts, probably was contained in the area north of the present water works, south of Route 36, east of the Stillwater River and west of present Main Street. Named either after one of Wayne's officers or after the behavior of the men, Fort Rowdy was short lived and ended with the Treaty of Greenville.

Moving north from Fort Greenville Wayne engaged in battle and defeated the Indians on August 20, 1794 in the Battle of

Fallen Timbers on the Maumee River. The army then returned to Fort Greenville where on August 3, 1795 Wayne concluded a peace and signed a treaty with all the tribes of the Northwest. In June 1795 the members of various tribes met at Fort Greenville for the purpose of negotiating peace with the victorious Americans. A treaty was signed by General Wayne, William Wells the interpreter, William Henry Harrison the aide-de-camp, William Clark, lieutenant, Meriweather Lewis, ensign, David Jones, chaplain, Henry DeButts, captain and John Mills, captain, on behalf of the United States; and on the part of the Indians by chiefs of the following tribes: Delawares, Shawnees, Chippewas, Ottawas, Miamis and Eel Rivers, Weas and Piankashaws, Kickapoos and Kaskaskias, Potawatomies and Wyandots. Those chiefs signing were: Tarhe the Crane (Wyandots), Little Turtle (Miamis), Blue Jacket (Shawnees), Buckongehelas (Delawares), Black Hoof (Shawnees), Leatherlips (Wyandots), Bad Bird (Chippewa), White Pigeon (Potawatomi), The Sun (Potawatomi) and Isaac Zane a Wyandot by adoption. The final treaty was signed on August 3, 1795, exchanged August 7, laid before the United States Senate on December 9 and ratified on December 22, 1795.

By this treaty the Indians ceded about 25,000 square miles of territory to the United States, besides 16 separate tracts, including land and forts. The Indians received in consideration of these cessions, goods to the value of \$20,000 and were promised an annual allowance of \$9,500 to be distributed equally to the parties of the treaty. Chief Blue Jacket had to be bribed with a \$300 annuity.

Never after that treaty, to their honor be it remembered, did the Indian tribes violate the limits which it established. It was a grand tribute to General Wayne that no chief or warrior who gave him the hand at Greenville ever lifted the hatchet against the United States.

The Treaty of Greenville was the signal for the spread of settlement up the river valleys into the interior of Ohio.

Thus we find that the French ceded in 1763, the English ceded in 1783, the Northwest Territory formed in 1787, the Indians ceded in 1795 and the way is now clear for the formation of the State of Ohio.

The year following the Treaty of Greenville found the citizens of the Ohio Country clamoring for statehood. Subsequently the population was sufficiently strong to win this recognition from Congress and in 1803 Ohio became the 17th state of the Union and the first to be carved out of the Northwest Territory.

THE AREA which now comprises Miami County was first within Hamilton County which was the second county established in the Northwest Territory, being formed on January 2, 1790 by proclamation of Governor St. Clair. Eight years later Ross County was established and subsequently on May 1, 1803 Montgomery County was formed from parts of Ross and Hamilton Counties and included all the lands north to Michigan, west of Champaign County to Indiana, a territory 40 by 170 miles. On January 16, 1807 a strip of land 40 by 45 miles running east to west across Montgomery County was formed into Miami County with all the land north remaining in Montgomery County which actually made two different parcels of land, both called Montgomery County. In 1812 the Legislature of Ohio put all lands north of Miami County in Miami County taking them from Montgomery, and so made Miami an area of 40 by 150 miles and extended north to Michigan. The western portion of Miami was then formed into Darke County in March 1817, leaving Miami with a territory of 20 by 50 miles. Shortly thereafter, in 1819, Shelby County was formed to the north and the present boundary was established. Miami County today contains 404.24 square miles with the greatest east-west distance being 21 miles. The north-south distance is 19 miles on the west side of the Miami River and 22 miles on the east side. Miami lies between 39 degrees, 55 minutes and 40 degrees, 11 minutes north latitude and between 84 degrees, 2 minutes and 84 degrees 26 minutes west longitude, and is composed of twelve townships; Monroe, Bethel, Springcreek, Washington, Staunton, Concord, Elizabeth, Brown, Newberry, Newton, Union and Lostcreek of which this book hereafter will deal only with the township of Newberry.

The name Miami was taken from the Indian name Miami which was the name of one of the oldest Indian Tribes in this area. The first white settler was Peter Felix, Indian Trader, and his three companions who built cabins near Staunton in the autumn of 1795. They were followed in 1797 by John Knoop who settled east of Troy, Ohio. The population of Miami County today is 61,309 as compared with 8,851 in 1820.

NEWBERRY TOWNSHIP, organized about 1810, was prior to 1807 part of Randolph Township, which was that part of Miami County lying west of the Miami River. At that time only two townships existed, the other being Elizabeth which was east of the Miami River. Later, present Newberry and Newton were formed together under the name of Newberry but increase in population made it necessary to form two separate townships,

Newberry retaining the name and the new township to the south taking the new name, Newton. The first Justice of the Peace in Newberry was Amos Perry and the first Constable was John Thompson. The approximate date of these is about 1816.

Newberry Township contains 42 square miles, is seven miles from north to south and six miles from east to west. It is located in the northwest corner of the country, bounded on the west by Darke County, on the north by Shelby, on the east by Washington Township and on the south by Newton Township. The northwestern part of the township is the most elevated in the county with the general surface sloping to the southeast. The township is drained by the Stillwater River and its tributaries; Greenville Creek, Trotters Creek, Harrisons Creek, Albaugh Creek and Rocky Branch.

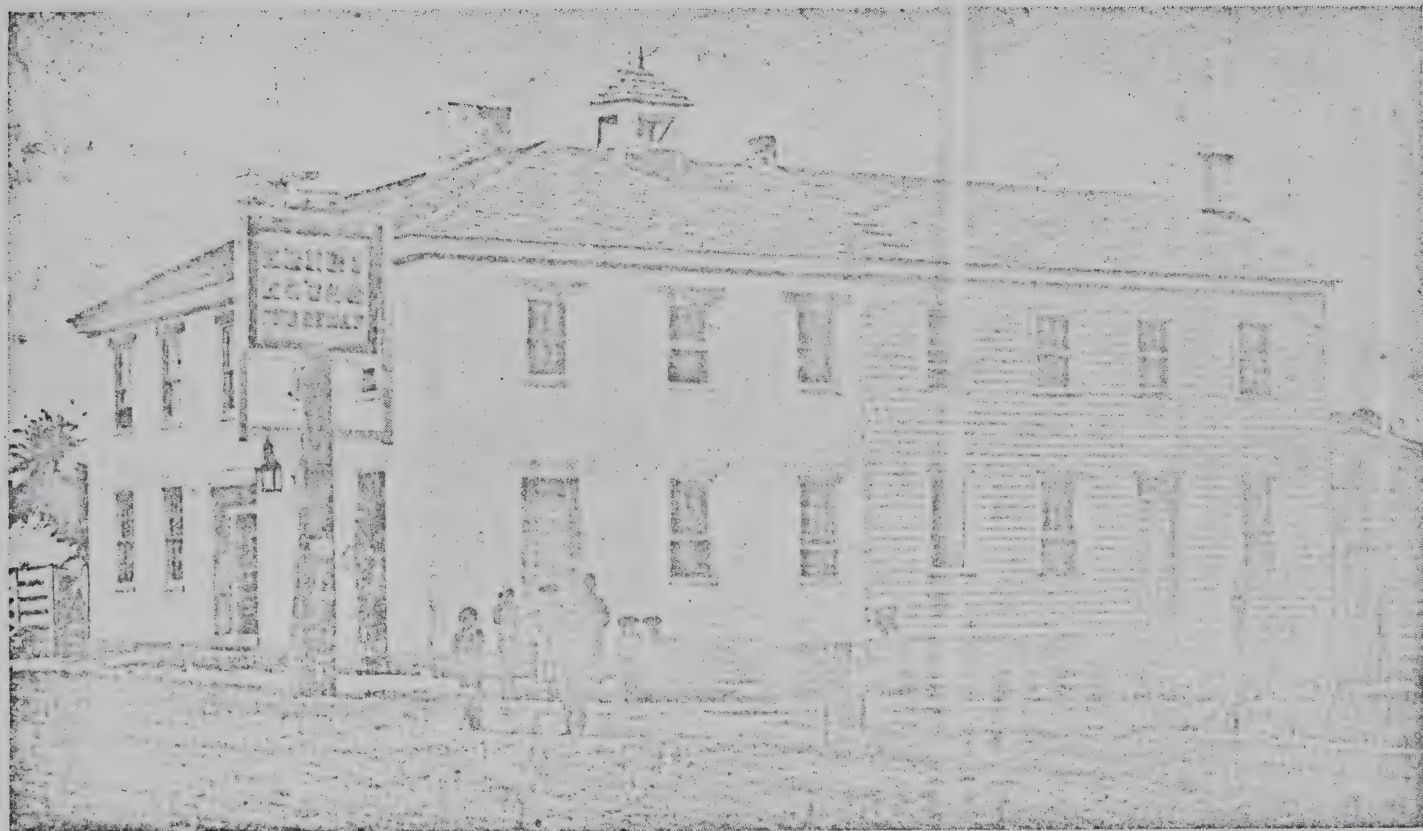
The first settlers, many coming from Newberry in Newberry District in South Carolina, found here a virgin forest of many species of trees, deep rich grass and cool sparkling springs. Deep forests along the peaceful streams were abundant with all sorts of game with which the pioneers graced their tables.

During the early settlements the yellow rattlesnakes made their homes in the limestone ledges along the Stillwater River and Greenville Creek. Newberry had the reputation of having no rival in the number of venomous reptiles but the settlers soon made war on them by turning swine loose and soon the infested streams were cleared of the reptiles.

Newberry Township lies between 40 degrees 5 minutes and 40 degrees 11 minutes north latitude and between 84 degrees 19 minutes and 84 degrees 26 minutes west longitude. The present population is 5,678. The township officers at present are: trustees W. C. Davis, Russel Clark and Edward Driver, clerk, Howard Buchanan, Justice of the Peace J. D. Huffman and Constable Norman Miller.

Newberry Township, being part of that area designated as Congressional Lands, slowly commenced its settlements. The first ten men to receive patents from the government were: David Zeigler (1801), Michael Ingle (1804), Thomas Hill (1805), John Miller (1805), Sylvester Thompson (1805), Samuel Nicholson (1806), Phil Swartzell (1806), William Pearson (1806), David Burnstrager (1806), and Samuel Brown (1807).

David Zeigler, entering his land in April 1801, cannot be classified as a settler as he was a land agent in Cincinnati and probably entered land as an inducement to others. The first location and cabin built in Newberry was by a South Carolinian named McDonald, near what is now Harrisons Creek, two and



The Union Hotel, or more recently The Henry House, was located at the intersection of the Troy Pike and Bridge Street (Now the R. F. Alberry residence), and operated by Henry Matthews. Records show it existed as far back as 1846.

one half miles north of Covington. Although he did not have a land patent he remained here one season, then returned to South Carolina with John Harrison, another dissatisfied settler from Union Township, both leaving their lands and cabins.

THE FIRST PERMANENT white settler was Michael Ingle who came from Virginia and settled temporarily in Montgomery County. He received his land patent November 15, 1804 and shortly thereafter settled at the mouth of Harrisons Creek probably in the vacated cabin of McDonald. He is said to have prospected north up the Stillwater River before 1800 and in 1804 he entered two separate tracts of land, one in Newberry and the other in Newton Township; that in Newberry being the Northwest Quarter of Section 20.

Michael Ingle, a tanner by trade is important in the history of Newberry from the fact that he brought 800 acres of land into a high state of cultivation. He also produced some very fine leather in his tannery and, his well, dug through the rock, was the only one in the settlement for ten years. He also is said to have grown the first wheat in the township. In 1810 he purchased his third quarter section which became very valuable for its quarries. He erected the second house in what is now the confines of Covington, having built a double log cabin where the Eshleman Funeral Home now stands. He and his first wife raised a family of seven sons and four daughters of whom all but three stayed in the township. The descendents of Michael Ingle now living in Newberry are very great in number. He was in the Revolutionary War, died in 1838 and is buried in Highland Cemetery.

Following Michael Ingle, came in 1805 John Miller, Elijah Reagan and Sylvester Thompson followed shortly by Samuel Brown. Subsequently came William Coats with his son, John Coats, and his son-in-law, Daniel Wright. Samuel Brown stayed but a short time but John and William Coats built cabins and stayed. Daniel Wright also built a cabin which was situated at the southwest corner of Main and Spring streets, this being one of the first six cabins in the township. In 1810 Jacob Ullery purchased land but did not occupy it until 1811. This was the southeast quarter of section 30, later noted for its quarries and proved to be the most valuable property in the township.

When the War of 1812 broke out the cabins of nine families dotted the forest. At this time the settlers all left their clearings for temporary safety from the hostile Indians who

were expected to invade this area. Some went to Montgomery County, some to the Ludlow settlement; Ingle went to the stockade in Newton Township, and Ullery to Lostcreek Township.

Michael Ingle, John Miller, William Coats, John Coats, Daniel Wright, Elijah Reagan and Jacob Ullery were seven of the nine families living here in 1812. The names of the other two are unknown. Sylvester Thompson shortly after his arrival moved to Newton Township. Also taking out land were Phil Swartzell, William Pearson and David Burnstrager but it can not be ascertained whether they ever settled here or not.

On June 18, 1812 The United States declared war on Great Britain. In Ohio the Americans were vigorously attacked by the British, supported by the Indians under the leadership of Tecumseh. On the 30th day of April 1812, Brigadier General Edmond Munger sent communications to Captain George Buchanan of Milton ordering him to form the 2nd regiment, which would be attached to the 5th brigade of the 1st Division of Ohio Militia and to see that they were fully equipped and ready to march at a moments notice. To his regiment were added Lt. James Caldwell of Piqua and Ensign Gardner Bobo of Spring Creek. By July 10, 1812 this regiment was composed of, in addition to the three commissioned officers, four sergeants, four corporals and forty privates. The regiment was assigned to the Stillwater Valley and adjoining territory and began almost immediately the erection of a block house at a point across the Stillwater River from the mouth of Greenville Creek. This blockhouse was first called "Buchanan's Block House" and later referred to as Fort Rowdy but this was not accepted by Captain Buchanan. This fort consisted of a blockhouse and a tower in the southwest corner with a stockade enclosing a section north and as far east as the St. Marys Road (High Street) and enclosing a good spring under what was later the hotel building. In his communications Captain Buchanan referred to this as "Fort Buchanan" and so it was thereafter called such.

Orders to muster out were dated July 20, 1812 and all men were dismissed who were stationed west of the Miami River unless hostile movements of the Indians required their services. Captain Buchanan and his regiment marched to Troy July 13, joined other companies there, and all marched to Piqua to remain until the peace council was over. Although Fort Buchanan was used by the families in the neighborhood as a place of refuge during emergencies, there is no indication

that it was ever again used as a military post. The war was brought to a close December 14, 1814 by the Treaty of Ghent which provided for joint commissions to determine disputed boundary questions between the two countries.

Early in 1814, before the treaty with England, we find the settlers returning, the number of immigrants augmenting and the clearings increasing. John Cable west of Stillwater; John Hay north of him; John Harrison and his sons, Richard and Bargitto on the creek that bears their name; above Cable, John Trotter on the creek named for him; the Templeton brothers Samuel, William, and David joining Trotter; John Carson and Samuel Nicholson in the same neighborhood; Sylvester Thompson and Joshua Falknor, south of Ullery and in 1816 Amos Perry opposite the falls on Greenville Creek; and William Knox on Trotters Creek. John Barbour joined the Trotters Creek settlement in 1817. We cannot mention all who came, but only such as became prominent and permanent citizens in those early times whose descendents are with us now.

1816 TO 1835—Amidst most picturesque environments on the Stillwater River, Covington had its beginning as a community on the east side of the Stillwater when early in 1816, Daniel Wright, in partnership with Jacob Ullery, laid out 36 town lots in section 30. Wright's portion covered the site of Wayne's encampment, the timber having been cut off by Wayne's army. These 36 lots lay between the St. Marys Road (High Street) and the east bank of the Stillwater. Three streets were laid out and named, running north and south; first, Water Street, next to the river and on the bluff; Main Street at the foot of the hill; and High Street, being the St. Marys Road and also the section line between 29 and 30. Three streets crossing at right angles were: first on the north, Wright Street, next Ullery Street and then Spring Street. Wright Street and Ullery Street were named for the men who laid out the town and Spring Street was named for the beautiful spring that burst from the rocks beneath the shade of a white oak grove that grew upon the bluff. The original plot was surveyed by Benjamin Cox and was called Friendship. It also was called Oldtown, Rowdytown, Stillwater and Newberry before the name of Covington was adopted in 1835. The first post office was called Stillwater and was located on

Picture on the Right—The T. A. Worley Drug Store about 1860. This building occupied the present site of Zimmerman's Department Store.



Wright Street half way between High and Main on the south side.

Elijah Reagan built the first house on the lot now occupied by the Eshleman Funeral Home; on the same lot Michael Ingle built a double log cabin. These two buildings were built about 1816. John Ingle built a hewed log cabin on the northwest corner of Main and Wright streets. A small log house was built on the southeast corner of Main and Wright streets and on the opposite corner someone built a hewed-log two story house which was never finished and rotted down. On the site now occupied by the Burk Drug Store, Noah Hanks put up the first store in Newberry Township which was also the first frame building about 1826.

At the end of ten years, after the platting and survey, of this town, it had but three families living in it, two vacant houses, one house, Daniel Wrights had been burnt, and twelve years elapsed after the town was laid out before a new house was erected. In 1828, Singer and Hilliard of Piqua built a frame building for a store room which in 1880 was still standing and was the oldest building in the village at that time. For years Covington was only important in so far as it afforded the farming community a chance to exchange their products for "cash or trade".

Michael Ingle tanned the first leather, 1819, and his reputation as a superior workman lived after him. The Hank brothers established a tannery in 1820 which was known as the Covington Tannery and was located on the east side of Main Street and just south of the present armory grounds. Between 1816 and 1817 Phillip Hartzell settled west of Greenville Falls and was the first to manufacture pumps. Benjamin Lehman operated the first wool carding machine in the locality and subsequently in 1826 Thomas Bolles added a fulling machine to the industries of the place. An English syndicate of Smiths first built and operated the large flour mills and distilleries at Greenville Falls. The copper shops were no small part of their milling interests, working 40 men, while in their saw mills lathes turned out a large class of miscellaneous wood work. In fact this was one of the most extensive and flourishing enterprises of its day in western Ohio, and taken as a whole, represented a large manufacturing establishment. In 1817 the first distillery was erected and followed by four in succession and whiskey was floated to New Orleans in considerable quantities.

One of the most interesting phases of pioneer history was the utilization of the country's water power. Our township has

more than its share of streams on which many mill sites existed. The first to erect mills were Noah Davenport and his brother-in-law, Wagner. He purchased a tract of land from Michael Ingle near Harrison Creek and Stillwater and in 1815 established a grist mill and started to erect a saw mill. About the same time Jacob Ullery erected a saw mill on Greenville Creek in the southeast corner of section 30. He also started on a grist mill. Davenport was first grinding and Ullery was first sawing and both mills operated many years before another mill was built.

In 1820 more settlers came, mostly from Pennsylvania; Phillip Hartzell Jr., Bob Casper, The Mohlers, Shellabargers, more Ingles, Kensingers, Hollopeters, Cassels, Wagners and Wisers. They were followed shortly by the Fahnestocks, Crowels, Whitmers and Hoovers. All these settlers had very large families and any family with less than twelve was called a small one.

In 1825 the Covington Tannery went out of business and in 1826 was purchased by Benjamin Lehman who operated it until 1830 when he sold to John Ross. In 1825 Michael Ingle planted the first wheat and no longer harvested it when the barn caught fire and burned to the ground.

NEWBERRY TOWNSHIP had not been long settled when the need was felt for an educational system. The first house for this purpose was erected at a spot which is now half way between route 36 and the Highland cemetery, on the west side of the road. It was built in 1815 or 1816 and did not long remain. The second school house was built about 1819 a half-mile farther north on the east side of the road (Highland Cemetery) and remained long in use. The first teacher in the house was Andrew Ballard. In other parts of the township school was held in dwelling and vacant cabins, one being the Trotters Creek settlement where John Barbour and Benjamin Dunham taught. In 1824 an acre of ground was deeded to Newberry Township on which was built a hewed-log school house. The first teacher in this building was William Dowler who taught for several years; other early teachers were James Perry and Moses Mitchell. As the population increased we find the township divided into districts each having its brick school house and an acre of ground for recreation. This system prevailed until 1931 when the last building was abandoned for the centralized system. The buildings were sold at auction, some being used for dwellings, storage, etc. One, No. 7, was sold to the American Legion for a meeting house.

The Trotters Creek Church was organized in 1820 by Mr. Stackhouse and the meetings were held in homes and barns.

Caleb Worley became its pastor in 1824 and continued as such until 1846 at which time the congregation merged with the Covington Christian Church.

Meetings of the German Baptist Church were held as early as 1816 in barns and dwellings under the leadership of Michael Etter. The Harris Creek Church was built in 1855 due to an increase of members in that locality. In 1892 the non-progressive branch of the German Baptists left their church in Covington and built a frame meeting house east of Covington on the Farrington Road. In 1950 it was torn down and replaced by a modern brick structure. Prior to this the congregation had split and part of them purchased the old number nine school and remodeled it for their church in 1931.

The Greenville Creek Christian Church was organized by Caleb Worley in 1843 and their first church was built in 1844, being replaced in 1882 with the present structure.

The Union Church on the Union Church Road no longer exists having been recently torn down due to the fact that the building was no longer safe. This was one of the oldest churches in the township. (Built 1852.)

The St. Johns Evangelical Church located on the Shelby-Miami County line was organized in 1875 and was mostly served by the pastor of the Covington Lutheran Church. This church was destroyed by fire in 1938 and the members united with other Lutheran Churches.

All burials at this time were made in small family cemeteries or in churchyards, the largest and oldest being that at Sugar Grove. The family graveyards were very numerous and every section had two or more. These small cemeteries today are being cared for by the Township Trustees.

The growth of Covington in this period was very slow, the village having only three families in 1826. On August 29, 1828 Robert and William Robertson laid out the plot of New Jefferson which was a spot between Main and High Streets beginning at the section line north of the railroad (today) and extending south 57 rods. This was later added to the Village of Covington.

On the first Monday in April 1835 the first election was held in Covington which resulted in the election of Gilbert D. Adams, Mayor, William Robinson, recorder, and Charles Orwan, Joshua Orr and Thomas McKinzie, trustees (later called councilmen).

On July 11, 1835 a constitution was adopted and Covington started on its career as a full fledged municipal corporation of the great commonwealth of Ohio. The officers provided for in

the construction were as follows; mayor, recorder, trustees three, marshall, supervisor and collector, last three being appointed by the council. On July 30, 1835 seven ordinances were passed providing in many ways for the welfare of the community. The salaries of the council were fixed at twenty five cents for each day and twelve and one half cents for each night served in that capacity.

Things ran very smoothly until May 3, 1839 when the council imposed the first tax which was twelve and one half cents per head on swine, over three months old, that were allowed to run at large throughout the town. This tax created a great howl among the people but the tax remained.

A re-organization of the corporation was made in 1850 and on March 22 of that year an act was passed by State Legislature amending the charter of the village which fixed the corporation

In the 1837 election, the mayor and recorder refused to serve limits.

and were fined two dollars each and the council appointed two men to fill their places. On May 17, 1841 the first ordinance pertaining to side walks in the village was passed. In 1842 the first hooks and ladders were purchased for a fire department and the first city fire examiners were appointed. The office of tax collector was established this same year with Henry Carmichael being appointed the first tax collector. In 1845 the council approved the erection of a bridge at the foot of Pearl Street on Piqua Turnpike.

The mayors of this period were: Gilbert D. Adams 1835, 1836, and 1837; Samuel Patterson elected in 1837 and refused to serve; Jeremiah Shade 1838; Noah Dewey 1839; Joseph Leonard 1840; George Deprees 1841; Andrew Diltz 1842, 1843, 1844, 1845; William Ross 1846; Andrew Diltz 1847; Joseph Leonard 1848; C. W. Carlton 1849 and James Purdy 1850 but replaced by B. Neff (1850) when the corporation was reorganized. The councilmen of this day were many but a few held the office for a number of years; Dr. R. N. Cox six years; John Patterson six years; John Sowers six years; William McDowell five years and Hamilton Bartmess four years. The office of Treasurer was held held by only six men in this period with Samuel Ullery holding the office five times and Dr. Cox and Andrew Diltz each three years. The Marshalls were many and only one man held the position for any length of time, that being Joseph Marlin who was marshall three years. The office of Recorder also changed hands many times and here, too, only one man held the office

longer than one year, he being James Purdy who served for four years.

In 1830 the Troy-Greenville Road was commenced which was to pass through Covington. This road was mud all the way and after a short time a few Trojans decided to build a better one. They constructed a plank road but the plank soon rotted in the swampy ground and forced the trial of gravel which proved to be a success. This road was finally completed in 1845 being the first gravel road in the county. It entered Covington on the east and continued down Wright Street and crossed the river just north of the present water works building and continued on west to Greenville. The first road built in Newberry Township was in 1816 but passed through Clayton to the north, having been the Piqua-Greenville Road. The Troy-Greenville Road was the first commenced in Covington but not the first completed.

In 1838 the businessmen of Dayton, seeing the importance of the increasing trade of the Stillwater Valley and foreseeing the danger of its being diverted to the just completed Miami Canal, organized the Dayton and Covington Turnpike Co., secured stock and began construction in 1839. When the success of this venture was secure and well under way Piqua moved to connect themselves with the Dayton-Covington Turnpike in order to secure the rich farm products from the Stillwater Valley and Darke County. They formed a company and bridged the six miles of black swamp between the Miami and Stillwater Rivers with the Old Covington Pike. The Dayton and Covington Pike was completed in 1841 and the Piqua-Covington Pike joined it in 1843. This made Newberry Township the first in the county with three turnpikes and gave Covington a daily mail and stage route.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH, the first church erected in Covington, was built in 1835 where the Shafer and Boehringer Blacksmith shop now operates. Here also was located the first cemetery in Covington which was just south of the church and later moved to Highland Cemetery.

1836 was a cold summer with frost every month and a snow-storm in August. The first Methodist Church was erected this year on Pearl Street but the very next year was destroyed by a huge oak tree which toppled on the church during a cyclone. School at this time was held in this church and also in a building on the southeast corner of High and Broadway.

1837 saw the first school house erected in the confines of Covington which was a frame structure built on the southwest

corner of Main and Spring Streets. The population of the town increased rapidly and a few years later larger quarters were needed to conduct classes. The frame school was sold and a new two story-building was build on the southeast corner of Spring and Pearl Streets (now Fire House). John and Ezekiel Ainsworth were the first teachers here. Caleb Worley organized the Covington Christian Church in a school house this year and the Troy-Greenville Road was rebuilt.

The Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church was organized in 1838 and the Piqua-Covington Turnpike Co. was formed. This was also the year of the first Miami County Fair. The largest and most successful mill was erected at Greenville Falls by George W. Smith and operated for many years as a grist, sawmill and distillery.

In 1839 work was being done on both turnpikes and the Dayton-Covington Turnpike was estimated to cost \$2,800 per mile.

Aaron Boggs purchased the old Noah Davenport mills in 1843 from Benjamin Kendall, built another grist mill farther up on Harrisons Creek and a lath mill on the northwest corner of Route 48 and the Iddings Road. He and his son built another or possibly two others on a long race which parralleled the Stillwater on the east.

The first Christian Church was built on North Pearl Street in 1846 and in 1848 a charter was granted to the Masonic Lodge. In the next few years more mills came into existence; John Cable's mills on Greenville Creek, David Croft's mill (1830) on down from Cables; the Clayton mills on upper Stillwater, the Murphy mill site south of Covington and the Swisher Hartzell Grist Mill.

Among the many enterprises of Newberry was that of quarrying, both banks of the Stillwater River being underlaid with a good quality of Limestone. Beginning at the north of the township the first location was the lime kilns at Clayton. Coming south, the next was in the present bounds of Covington on the east banks, extending from Broadway to the south corporation line and destroyed all of old Water Street. It was owned by David Face. Across the river from Covington was a large quarry operated by David Martin. A Covington stone quarry operated south of town and J. M. Ruhl owned a quarry and lime Kiln near the south edge of Covington; also Levi Falknor had a quarry on his farm along the Stillwater. Many of the buildings in Covington have been built on foundations of native stone and laid with mortar made with burnt lime. Thousands of stone were shipped

out on the railroads in the next decades. A loading platform existed in later years west of the present Covington Motor Inn and on the north side of the track. After cement and concrete block come into use, the quarries were abandoned, many parts of them having been filled.

The average pioneer seemed to see no impropriety in patronizing the local distilleries. It was customary to see the whisky bottle accompany the water jug on occasion where a few neighbors were called together. From 1840 to 1850 a strong temperance sentiment developed and in a very few years whiskey ceased to be furnished on public occasions.

In the early days wolves were very abundant and very destructive but under the stimulus of a \$3.00 bounty per wolf scalp they became extinct about 1830. Bears were seldom seen after 1835 but panthers were seen occasionally until 1860. Deer became extinct about 1855 and wild turkeys were decreasing rapidly by 1870. In 1850 the second Methodist Church was erected at Pearl and Spring Streets; also the advent of carpets to some of the people of Covington and the year that white granulated sugar first came on the markets.

The year 1850 found Covington with a population of 451 and served by Mayor B. Neff, Recorder James Purdy, and Councilmen Jonathan Looker, Hamilton Bartmess, William McDowell, C. W. Carlton and C. M. Gross.

Covington had three doctors; R. N. Cox, M. R. Shellabarger and S. N. Eaker; four general stores: M. R. Shellabarger (Streibs), L. Leonard (Pool Room), A. Routson (Burks) and William Minton (Citizens National Bank). There were two grocery stores; J. B. Dunning (Bob's Gulf Station) and Peter Nicoloy at the southwest corner of Spring and High.

C. H. Ditzler & Dreese tailors (Flory Ins.), J. E. Shellenberger groceries and hardware (Maes), Hamilton Bartmess' harness shop (Building and Loan), J. C. Williams livery stables at northeast corner of Thompson and High, W. L. Fahnestock had a pump and cradle factory (Crawford's) and James Purdy operated a chair and cabinet factory at the present Etter Music Store.

There were two hotels; J. N. Newman on the southwest corner of Bridge and High and the Mansion House own by Daniel Lehman where the old hotel building is now located at the foot of the hill on High Street. The post office was on the southeast corner of Wright and High; William Robinson was the notary public, Joseph Hilliard ran a tavern and John C. Langston and Phillip Hartzell were carpenters.

AFTER 1850 all business of a permanent or temporary character was confined to High Street and all the more aristocratic people lived on that street. It was customary in this period for all merchants to carry a general stock of merchandise including a barrell of old rye, served to customers in good sized glass tumblers. In those days boys were stout and rugged; good runners, hoppers, wrestlers and boxers; and the girls lacked but little of being their equal. There was Joe Ullery who dealt in merchandise and hogs, Daniel Crowell in whose fence was a big hole and a little hole to accomodate the big dog and the little dog coming in and out; Doctor Harrison, Pete Nicholaye whose place of business was always known by the smell of "New Orleans Sugar". Pete kept and sold as many as nine kinds of whiskey all out of the same barrel; Lew Leonard and Ab Routson were the toniest merchants in town; Daniel Lohmans livery stable, Dr. Shortell, who took pictures and pulled teeth; Berry Dunning sold cheese, dried herring and sold lemonade; John Sowers burned lime, quarried stone, bought wheat and corn and swapped horses; Charley Gross repaired wagons and carriages and Diltz and Son used to peg soles on rough boys.

Hamilton Bartmess kept and sold leather and harness; Squire Widener kept the post office and sold merchandise; George Porter, the violinist; Charles, Aaron and Bill Lindsay owned and operated large distilleries and did an extensive business; Mr. Rankins blacksmith shop; John Newman, who always wore a scissor-tail coat and high double decker hat, kept a tavern and sold good red liquor; Henry Bowman had no equal as a fiddler; Jack Shade hero of two wars; Mr. Paff who repaired clocks and watches down near the bridge to West Covington; Campbells' Mills on Greenville Creek where the first suicide in Covington was committed by Charles Patty; Charlie Cartwright the Confederate and a tailor; Dave Martin a lawyer and best looking man in Covington; Tom Clark the Englishman; the Schillings from way back; Christ Dunkle and Sam Kensinger, millers; Dutch Wagner who carried on a miscellaneous nickle-in-the-slot business on Main Street; Tom Hill, David Brandenburgh and Jim McBride drove oxen and horses for the Smith Mills; The Murrays, Simes and Perrys all well-known families; Henry Etter who was the first and only man to swim over Greenville Falls, doing so stark naked and sliding 300 feet; the first murder about 1840 when Greenlee killed Tice, who kept the two-mile tavern stand west of town and rented the building from Greenlee; Davie Croft who built, owned, operated and controlled many water grist mills, saw mills and farm; the Tobiasases, Weigles, Jakes and Cassels, all prominent

families; George Sipes the stoutest man in Newberry; the colored barber "Nigger Bill," also a good riddler and runner; Mr. Purdy who sold coffins, chairs and furniture in the days when you were measured for a coffin, and Esquire Joe Marlin who contributed largely to the legal and civil history of Covington, also Squire John Shuman.

Thomas Worley sold drugs and medicine; Joshua Orr burned lime and quarried stone; Squire Branson, the Republican Party Leader; William Reisner carpenter and wheelwright; Old Man Lokie and son, Al, kept a tavern, balky horses and drove the stage lines. Starting on the Piqua turnpike at the west end of town and going west the first house was Old Man Stephenson's, an old crippled sailor who taught school in the township district for many years; next house going west was occupied by Abe Olewine whose wife, a Tobias, fed all the boys wonderful cakes, pies, bread and apple butter; a quarter mile farther west old man Corbin kept and operated the drop pole at the toll gate; Jake Tobias occupied the next place and Henry Etter the next; one and one half miles west of town stood the old Botdorf blacksmith shop operated by Botdorf and Kinsey who also made guns; next was Louis Yingst, another blacksmith; further on was Yacob Yengling and the next was the two mile tavern stand first operated by Jack Shade's father, next by Greenlee and from him to Tice whom he killed, and from Greenlee to Clingenpeel then to Abe Hoover and finally to Jacob Zimmerman who bought the farm and discontinued the tavern stand which had operated for more than forty years.

On May 23, 1849 a stock company was organized to build a railroad from Columbus to Covington and in October of that year a vote was taken and passed and Newberry Township decided on the proposition of taking \$10,000 of stock in the Columbus, Piqua and Indiana Railroad. This railroad was completed to the Darke and Miami County line late in 1852 and completed to Union City in 1859. The original name Columbus, Piqua and Indiana Railroad was changed to the Pittsburgh, Columbus and St. Louis Railroad, later to the Pittsburgh, Columbus, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad, then to the Chicago Columbus and St. Louis Railroad and finally became part of the Pennsylvania Railroad system. Originally the railroad was to pass farther north of Covington but local citizens raised a sum of money (said to be

Picture on the Right—1916—Former Worley Building, torn down in 1916 to make room for Kendell Hospital. This building formerly housed Ed Reish's Barber Service.



\$1,000) to induce the construction to touch the village with a depot site to be furnished at the present Armory site, being donated by Benjamin Lehman. This railroad entered Covington directly behind the Drees coal yard and angled southwest behind the Lumber Yard and the Brooks Service Station on Broadway. It crossed present route 36 about half way between Pearl Street and High Street and then paralleled Broadway to the river, where it crossed about 60 feet south of the present highway bridge. During the construction of the railroad through Covington, the work was done by several hundred Irish laborers. At this time there came to Piqua the Robinson Circus, which had also, as laborers, a large group of Irishmen. Subsequently, a "holiday" was declared by the railroad Irish to attend the circus and enroute to the gala affair, several of them became highly inebriated and engaged the circus Irish in a clanish war which resulted in a badly mangled railroad crew. Two days later, as the Robinson Circus attempted to pass through Covington near the Drees Coal Yard, the railroad Irish lay in wait with pick handles and a burning desire for revenge but when John Robinson, the circus owner, threatened to loose the lions and tigers from their cages, the circus passed, unmolested.

The railroad was standard gauge and the engines were wood burners. Ballast was gravel taken from the premises of Fort Buchanan. This railroad, operating on the ground level, existed until 1907.

In March 1862 the Richmond and Covington Railroad Company was formed, by several Miami and Darke County men among whom were Henry Kitchen, John Gill, John Sowers and John Bradley. These men constructed a railroad from the end of the Piqua, Columbus and Indiana Railroad, a few miles west of Covington, to Richmond, Indiana where they joined with the Indiana Central Railroad at the state line. Early in the spring of 1870, Jack Spade, a daredevil engineer, came speeding across the streets of Covington, thundered down the grade and was soon over Main Street where Jot Kensinger was driving the family cow across the street. Spade, perceiving the animal, opened wide the throttle, trying to throw the cow clear of the tracks but unluckily, the "cow catcher" did not remove the obstruction, the cow rolling under the fire box and serving to raise the engine off the rails as it approached the river bridge. Spade and the fireman jumped clear of the train as it piled into the river on the south side of the bridge but the brakeman stayed with the train and was crushed by the engine.

In 1853 the most violent wind and rainstorm of the half century occurred, the following year the wheat crop was a total loss having been destroyed by the weevil. 1856-1857 was a very cold winter in which it was still below freezing until May 12 and the apple trees did not bloom until the last week in May. In 1859 it frosted on June 5, July 3 and 4 and August 29. In 1863 a hurricane hit Covington and the mercury dropped from 75 degrees to 17 degrees below zero in 10 hours.

Harris Creek Church was built in 1855 and this same year the first Lutheran Church was started in a rented building at the corner of High and Dodd Streets. By 1860 the population had increased from 451 in 1850 to 791, a gain of 340, and school was still being held in the present fire house and in dwellings.

THE FIRST MEETING of the Covington Cemetery Association was held December 25, 1861 in the store of Flockemer and Kensinger at which time the following temporary officers were elected: W. M. Fahnestock, Pres.; J. L. Purdy, Sec.; and J. R. Shuman Treasurer. They purchased five and one half acres at eighty dollars per acre from David Ingle, and commenced selling lots at five dollars each. This plot originally was the Ingle family burying ground. In 1864 the old cemetery at the Baptist Church was moved to Highland Cemetery, and in 1900 David Face presented the stone and iron entrance as a gift to the cemetery.

Currently the cemetery embraces 25 acres and contains approximately 5000 bodies. The avenues or streets in the cemetery are named with names of trees and flowers. About 1890 the grounds were given the name of Highland Cemetery. The cemetery is operated solely by funds from burials and the sale of lots. The present board members are C. E. Koon, Chairman; Roger O'Donnell sec-treas.; Ed Boehringer; Robert Perry and Frank Hartle, who are elected and serve without compensation.

The Highland Mausoleum Association was organized December 29, 1912 and elected the first board of trustees composed of: W. V. Swisher, A. B. Bashore, Jacob Kendall, A. F. Mikesell and Ben Loxley Jr. The Mausoleum was erected in 1912. Present trustees are O. L. Hoover, Pres.; Blanche Hedirck, Mary Wine and Mrs. L. W. Kendell. Revenue is derived from the sale of crypts and the Mausoleum Association pays the Cemetery Board each year for caretaker service. The total number of crypts is 112 and at present 42 are filled and 70 empty.

ON THAT memorable day in April 1861 when the old flag was struck by traitor hands and a semi-circle of hostile batteries converged their fire on Sumpter, compelling its surrender, and

firing souls to revenge the deed brought Miami County to the front. In a single day the Covington Blues had enrolled and responded to the President's call. A second day saw them at Columbus swiftly organized as Company I, Second Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

The number of soldiers raised in Miami County by the two calls were nearly 4,500 men. These men enlisted in various branches, chiefly the 110th, Eleventh, Forty Fourth, Seventy First, Ninety Fourth, 147th Ohio Infantry. Newberry Township sent more able bodied vigorous young men to the war than any township of its size in the United States.

The Covington Blues were organized in 1850 with Jack Langston captain, Jack Shade 1st lieutenant and Dave Martin 2nd lieutenant. After leaving Columbus in 1861 they went to Washington where they were formed into Company E of the Eleventh Regiment O.V.M. The officers at this time were Jack Langston, captain; Jack Shade, 1st lieutenant and "Hi" Moore, 2nd lieutenant. The Covington Blues fought at South Mountain, Antietam Creek, Bull Run, Monocacy, Sharpsburgh, Nashville, Chattanooga, Gordons Mills, Mission Ridge, Rocky Face, Buzzards Roost, Resaca and were mustered out of the service June 26, 1864.

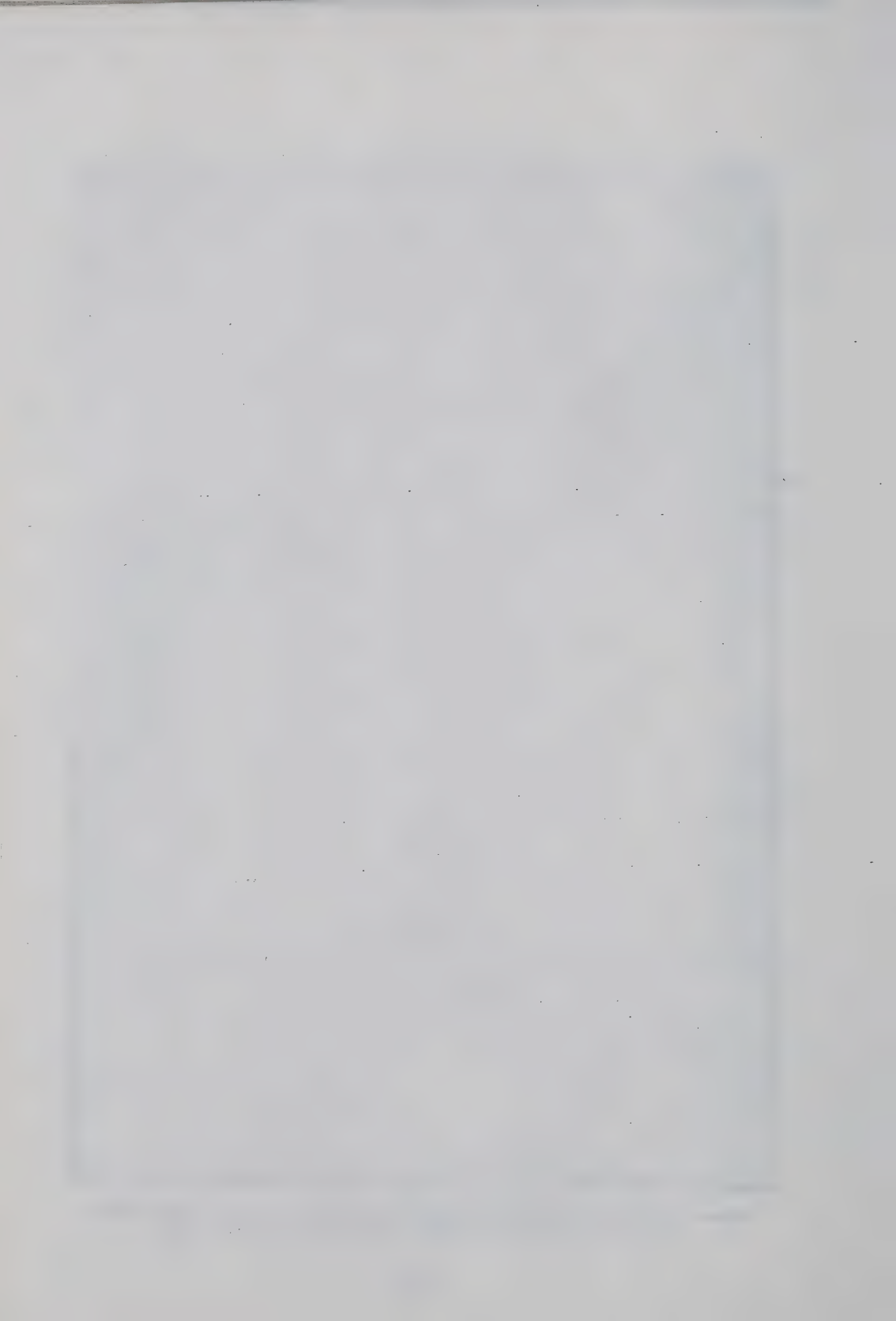
A paper of national scope had its birth in Covington in 1866 when Elder James Quinter of the Church of the Brethren began printing a paper which he called "The Gospel Visitor", today published in Elgin, Illinois as "The Gospel Messenger". This was the first printing and publishing house in Covington and was located where the Wright Merchandise Mart now stands.

The inadequate quarters and scattered situations of the schools impelled the Board of Education to build in 1867-1868 a three story brick house upon the site now occupied by the present structure. It contained 10 school rooms and a large hall and was built at a cost of \$10,000. The Board of Education at that time was J. C. Ullery, Isaac Shirtzer, Hamilton Bartmess, Lewis Leonard, M. R. Shellabarger and Michael Bashore. In November of 1868 Supt. R. F. Bennett, with his four teachers, moved into this splendid building and the next year the sixth teacher was added. Two years later the Covington Schools graduated nine members. This first graduating class was composed of: Ermina Cable (Mrs. H. H. Bear), Belle Routson (Mrs. J. T. Bartmess), Belle Quinter (Mrs. Rev. Myers), Hattie Billingsley (Mrs. Robert Harwood), Angie Harrison (Mrs. B. F. Rhodehamel), A. F. Hickman, J. W. Reisner, A. L. Marlin and R. W. Himes.

In 1869 the First Church of the Brethren was built within the village of Covington at Main and Ullery Streets and in the same



Former school house that was situated on the site of the present grade school. It was built in 1868, condemned and razed in 1896.



year J. R. Shuman laid out West Covington which was that portion west of the river and southwest of the village. This part of town never has entered the corporate limits. (The population of Covington in 1870 was 1,010. 1870 is marked as the year the first newspaper was printed in Covington. Mr. S. W. Ely started the Stillwater Valley Gazette but sold it, in 1874, to William A. Brown who changed the name to the Covington Gazette. The Stillwater Valley Gazette was first printed on the second floor of the Widner Building, (Shafer's) later moving to the second story of the building where the bank stands today. Mr. Brown later moved the Covington Gazette to the third floor of the Shellabarger Building, now Streibs.

The Stillwater Valley Bank started as a private institution in 1871 but was not incorporated as a state bank until 1908. The first officers of the institution, as a state bank, were: Jacob Kendall, Pres., A. C. Cable, Cashier, A. J. Maier, assistant cashier. It closed during the depression of 1931 and never reopened. The last officers were: R. F. Alberry, president, Levi Warner, vice president; A. J. Maier, cashier; Robert Weikert, assistant cashier; C. C. Maier, W. S. Routzahn and Herbert Kendall were board members.

1871—J. M. and S. M. Mohler manufactured drain tile; S. W. Ely was editor of the Stillwater Gazette; Leonard Ullery and Kinsinger proprietors of a grist mill and dealers in flour and grain; David Diltz auctioneer; J. Murlon, Justice of the Peace; G. W. Rauch, tanner and dealer in hides; Rush Reynolds, postmaster and operator of a grocery, confectionary and bakery; Dr. R. J. Poisons, proprietor of The North American Health Institute and Jacob Mohler operated a grist and saw mill. The corporation limits of the town were about the same as today, except for the east which was approximately on Grant Street.

1875 marked the building of the second Lutheran Church which was erected at the corner of Wall and Bridge Street. The 1875 business directory was: W. A. Brown, publisher; H. H. Baer, merchant mill; J. B. Dunning, groceries; Harrison Fisher, merchant; N. W. Furnas, building stone and lime; George Kreighbaum, blacksmith; Joseph Marlin, Justice of the Peace; Hiram Moore, plasterer; Rush Reynolds, postmaster and groceries; J. W. Ruhl, stone and lime dealer; Jack Shade, bricklayer and Samuel Wiley, bricklayer.

REDMAN, which was a portion of the town lying on the hillside west of High Street, starting at the north corporation line

and running south 500 feet, was plotted Feb. 19, 1877 by J. R. Shuman and entered the city March 27, 1885.

The German Baptist Mutual Insurance Company was formed in 1879 and the Dayton, Covington and Toledo Railroad (narrow gauge) was incorporated. This railroad was later known as the Delphos division of the C. H. & D. and it was at one time owned by John Ringling of circus fame. The railroad entered the village of Covington on the southeast corner just east of the present Sellman apartments, continued north past the tobacco warehouse, hub and spoke factory and ran down what is now Grant Street, cutting across the present high school's front yard and passing between Rudy's elevator and another tobacco warehouse. The depot sat at the site of the present school. The railroad crossed the Piqua Turnpike, continued west of the Covington Lumber Co. and on north. It crossed route 48 on the Ebberts farm and followed the Stillwater river for awhile passing through Blue, Abe Station, Bloomer and on north. It was made standard gauge in 1891. Last train was in the early 20's.

By 1880 the population had increased to 1,458, the first fire engine was purchased, the voters went to the April elections in sleighs and Mr. Brown sold the Covington Gazette to R. and W. F. Cantwell.

In 1882 the "Old Order Dunkards" split off from the Brethren Church and a new Greenville Creek Church was erected.

1883 saw a complete crop failure, the crops being planted late combined with a bad year and a killing frost on Sept. 9. The next spring (1884) a killing frost occurred on May 29. In 1886 the Covington Building and Loan was organized and the present Presbyterian Church was erected. The Lewis Woolen Mills in West Covington started manufacturing blankets in 1887. It changed hands in 1917 and was called the Covington Woolen Mill Company, and later in 1930 went completely out of business.

By 1890 the population had increased to 1,778 and the business directory was as follows: A. Routson & Co., dry goods; Cozzens and Brown, dry goods; A. Dreese and Co., dry goods; J. W. Lyle, Conrad Kriegbaum, W. C. Shuman, Richeson and Ullery, Ed Simes, A. B. Stapp, all groceries; T. A. Worley and Son and Ratcliff and Dollinger, drug stores; flouring mills were J. S. Mohler and E. Kendell and Son; stone quarries were operated by G. W. Butt, J. W. Ruhl, Lewis Face, Charles Barringer and David Martin; two lumber companies were Dreese Brothers and the Joseph Murphy Lumber Co.; meat markets were C. E. Fashner, C. W. Schmidt and Will Yount; millinery stores, Mrs. S. Town-

send, Miss Mina Purdy and Mrs. Richard Schilling; bakeries were C. W. DeWeese and Charles Eberenz; F. W. Weeks was photographer of the Elite Studio; blacksmiths were G. W. Speelman, Henry Tucker, D. M. Lauver, Louis Speelman, Al DeWeese, and Coate and Shafer; Thomas Fine operated a feed store; the livery stables were T. P. Covault and Son (Empire Livery), O. McGowen and Son, and Fosdick and Gross; grain houses were Baer and McClary, Shuman, and Sowers and Co.; tailors were Ruhl and Fennemore, John Belser, Harry Fox; the bank was the Stillwater Valley Bank; Hotels were Central Hotel, Hill House and Leland Hotel; two dairies were operated by Matt. Himes and L. D. Falknor; nurseries were B. F. Albaugh, Mesh Cassel and Harry Fox; Graely Furnas was the coal oil dealer; I. A. Corwin was superintendent of the gas works and telephone company; Henry Staley and J. B. Metzger ran harness shops; the attorneys were William Freshour and J. H. Marlin; saloons were operated by Samuel Hoeflich, J. M. Popp, Henry Schloss and Gottlieb Warner; The Whitmer Brothers Company and the Cincinnati Furniture Company were the two undertakers and furniture dealers; John Geyer and Wesley Anderson were the barbers; John S. Dollinger was postmaster and the Covington Gazette was the town's newspaper. R. F. Bennett was school superintendent and R. W. Himes was principal. Teachers were Z. L. Ramsey, Belle Dorsey, Agnes Flammer, Lola Fahnestock, Effie Kinney, Meda Westfall and Kate Marlin. The school board was Jacob Kendall, A. S. Rosenbarger, J. R. Shuman, M. Maier, C. Finfrock and A. C. Hall.

Some of the factories were: Hub and Spoke factory owned by J. G. Wagner and Joshua Grubb; the Brandt Machine Shop started in 1879 (burned down in 1902) and was located where the Brethren Parsonage now stands; here also William Boggs manufactured pin cushions and spool racks; J. G. Wagner Brick and Tile Factory; Fahnestock and Westfall pump factory; C. M. Gross Buggy Works; M. Maiers Buggy Works; Maiers Brush Shop; Elijah Hill manufactured Proprietary Medicines and the Covington Manufacturing Company on North High Street operated by William Boggs, manufactured lawn swings. The largest of the factories was the hub and spoke factory which employed 40 men who turned out 1200 rims and 2500 spokes each week and made 2000 hub blocks each day.

IN 1895 Judge Dwyer of Dayton, in conjunction with Colonel Orr of Piqua, promoted gas service to the city of Dayton from wells on the Judge's farm where natural gas was first found in Western Ohio (near North Star.) The lines were laid through

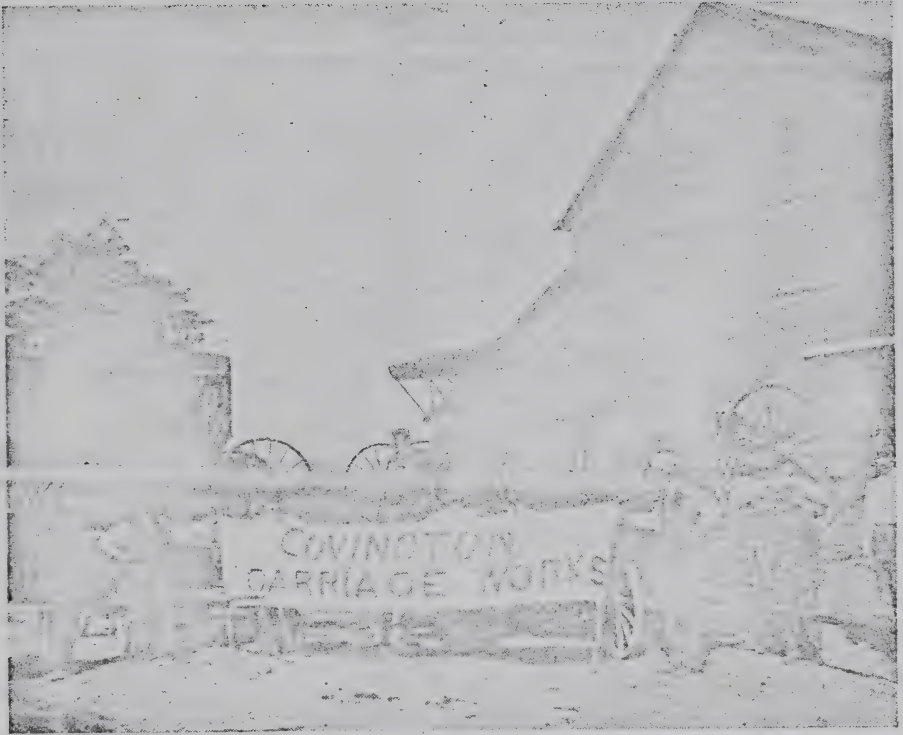
Covington and branch lines served Piqua and Troy. It was organized as the Miami Valley Gas and Fuel Company and furnished gas to the consumers unmetered until the field near North Star diminished. When the supply became insufficient, lines were laid to connect the existing lines with a field at Red Key, Indiana. This supply also soon dwindled and connections were made with a strong supply discovered at Sugar Creek in southeastern Ohio. About this time all the small companies were taken over and re-organized and became known as the Ohio Fuel Gas and Supply Co., which is a subsidiary of the Columbia Gas System from which source we receive our supply now, supplemented by a supply of Texas gas, the distribution being made through the Dayton Power and Light Company.

On January 15, 1896 it was decided by a vote of the people to build a new school house in place of the one existing which had been condemned. The old building was torn down and the grounds prepared for the erection of the new structure, which is the present grade building. The schools first entered this building on January 18, 1897.

In 1897 R. M. Alberry and sons built a dam across Greenville Creek about one and one eighth miles from Covington at which site they constructed a power plant where the 28 foot water fall turned the generator to supply the first electric power to Covington. This plant was one of the first hydro-electric plants in the state and later furnished electricity to Pleasant Hill, Ludlow Falls and a number of rural lines. In 1911 the organization was incorporated as the Buckeye Light and Power Co. with J. H. Marlin of Covington as president, T. Russell Robinson of Boston as secretary-treasurer, and R. F. Alberry of Covington as general superintendent. The Buckeye Light and Power Company promoted and built the first rural electric lines in the United States and filed first rates with the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio for the construction and operation of rural lines. About 1927 or 1928 the Buckeye disposed of their property to the United Public Service Company of Chicago. This company in turn was absorbed by the Dayton Power and Light Company who now own the property.

The Covington Tribune was established in 1898 by J. H. Marlin and O. W. Yount. Mr. Yount stayed one year and sold his interest to his partner. In 1905 J. H. Marlin sold to a brother, A. L. Marlin and his son W. L. Marlin.

In the year 1900 the population increased to 1,791, the Crampton and Sons Boiler Works went out of business, as did the Crescent and Metallic Fence Stay Company; the Citizens National Bank was organized and the Covington Home Telephone



Covington Carriage Works, west of Shafer and Boehringer.
Building burned in 1902.

Company was started. Some of the businesses in 1900 were; Covington Gazette, Covington Tribune, Covington Woolen Mills, Wagner Tile and Brick Yard, Covington Flouring Mills, Sugar Grove Flouring Mills, The J. W. Ruhl quarries, C. H. Jackson quarries, Dreese Saw Mills, R. M. Alberry Saw Mills, C. T. Dreese Talcum Powder Co., Covington Lumber Company, Covington Telephone Company, Falls Electric Light Company and the Covington Steam Laundry, Covington Building and Loan and Stillwater bank.

Lodges were: Masonic Lodge, I. O. O. F., Mildred Lodge, Langston Post G. A. R., Camp S. of V., Amokee Tribe I. O. R. M., Demoiselle Council D. of P., Patrons of Husbandry, Stillwater Lodge K. of P., Stillwater Grange and the Order of the Gobblers.

The mayors of this period were: B. Neff (1850), Joseph Marlin (1851, 1852), William Robinson (1853), Thomas Anderson (1854), C. H. Gross (1855), William Robinson (1856), Charles Wild (1857), Isaac Sherzer (1858). No dates can be found for the years 1859 to 1871 but the following men held the

office: William Couffer, Thomas Worley, W. G. Bryant, Isaac Sherzer, David Diltz and J. L. Smart. John V. Griffen (1871, 1872, 1873), Adam Minnich (1874-1876, 1876-1878, 1880-1882, 1882-1884), David Diltz (1870, 1878-1880), D. C. Shellabarger (1884-1886), J. H. Marlin (1886-1888), S. C. Sisson (1888-1890), D. J. Martin (1890-1892-1894), S. D. Palmer (1894-1896, 1896-1898, 1898-1900), and M. H. Nill (1900-1902).

Those serving on the council during this period were: James Fahnestock, John Patterson, Charles Gross, C. W. Carlton, Hamilton Bartmess, R. H. Seely, James Purdy, John Sowers, R. N. Cox, W. Fahnestock, L. H. Anderson, Daniel Lehman, John Harrison, Joshua Orr, Johnson Huggins, William McDowell, John Whitmer, William Holsinger, J. R. Shuman, James Campbell, G. F. Buchanan, Thomas Marlin, Henry Langston, Joseph Albaugh, Thomas Latchford, Thomas Worley, William Minton, Jacob Widner, John Smart, J. A. Corwin, D. C. Shellabarger, O. Rankin, George Davidson, Rush Reynolds, J. W. Ruhl, Adam Weaver, J. R. Kauffman, David Diltz, John Keister, Ezekiel Boggs, Conrad Neth, Charles Westhaven, C. Wysong, Conrad Shefbuch, Francis Dills, Jacob Kendall, Martin Stienhilber, G. Neth, A. L. Marlin, Michael Maier, L. H. Kensinger, James Latchford, E. D. Simes, Richard Brandon, Charles Boehringer, G. W. Butt, Maddison Kendell, Clark Adams, Jacob Wagner, T. P. Covault, S. D. Palmer, A. M. Ruhl, S. W. Ullery, Alden Boggs, W. H. Richeson, William Day, J. C. Ullery, George Dreese, Jacob Tobias, Lee Dollinger, Ephram Pearson, Charles Boyer, Thomas Marlin, L. H. Coate, Oliver Younce, E. S. Mohler, J. V. Metzger, J. Guy O'Donnell, E. W. Gross, Alex Brandon, G. W. VanAtta, W. W. Routson, and Lon Conover.

The city marshalls were: Daniel Lehman (1851), C. B. Maury (1852), William Porter (1853), Jackson Shade (1854), David Diltz (1855, 1856), Phil Hartzell (1857), B. Gibbens (1858), none available 1859 to 1871; Abraham Fisher (1872, 1873), George Speelman (1874, 1875, 1876-1878, 1880-1882), William Gavin (1878, 1879, 1884-1898), Jacob Tobias (1898-1900). In 1898-1900 William Gavin served as township constable. Harvey Hake was appointed marshall and night watch in 1901.

The officers in the year 1900 were: M. H. Nill, mayor; W. H. Richeson, clerk; C. M. Gross, treasurer; Jacob Tobias, marshall; Alex Brandon, street commissioner; and councilmen were Oliver Younce, C. Shafer, Harry Furnas, Lon Conover, Clark Adams and J. V. Metzger.

Some highlights of the council meetings: In 1852 the council approved the erection of a market house which was built by Sam

Barnhardt on ground purchased from James Fahnestock. This market house was made of frame and was 40 feet long, 18 feet wide and 10 feet to the eaves. 1853 saw a dry ordinance passed prohibiting anyone selling intoxicating beverages in quantities less than one quart except the taverns and drug stores. In 1854 an ordinance was passed to elect the marshal, treasurer and supervisor instead of the heretofore appointments. In 1856 the market house was sold to Lewis Face. 1870 was the first election for street commissioners. 1873 was the first election for fire wardens. 1872 the ditch or branch running through town was constructed and Wall and Pearl Streets first graded. On December 2, 1874 the council voted to purchase 20 globe gaslight lamps from the Globe Gas Light Company of Boston, Mass., not to include posts and baskets. These were the first street lamps and were purchased for \$17.00 per lamp. The first lamp lighter was Maddison Kendall, appointed in December 1874. In 1887 the council created a Board of Health with Dr. Reinhart in charge. In 1889 a permit was granted by the council to the Dayton Natural Gas Company to lay gas lines in the village of Covington. In 1896 the first electric light contract was made between the city and W. A. Shelt and W. H. Deeter on April 15. Also in this year the position of city solicitor was created. On June 9, 1898 the council passed a resolution to build a bandstand. 1901 the council ruled that all future sidewalks must be concrete.

The last 25 years of the 19th century saw the city officials very busy improving and creating the fire department, making, improving, grading and graveling the streets, erecting and maintaining street lights, and building sidewalks, gutters, sewers and ditches. The railroads came, schools were built, fire department was organized, population was increasing and there was considerable talk for several years for a water department.

IN JULY 1901, The Dayton, Covington, and Piqua Traction Line was started and in October of 1902 the first cars entered the village. This electric railroad entered Covington at the south corporation line and followed High street north to the intersection of the Greenville Turnpike where it turned east and followed the Piqua Pike (route 36) to Piqua. The depot stood on the southeast corner of the intersection.

On March 10, 1903, the village council approved the construction of the Covington, Bradford and Versailles Traction Line which was to be called route 2 and joined the D. C. & P. Traction Line at the intersection of High and Broadway. This electric railroad never materialized.



Dick Toy, Chinese Laundry man who occupied the the building now known as Tony's Basket Shop on Wright Street (1901).

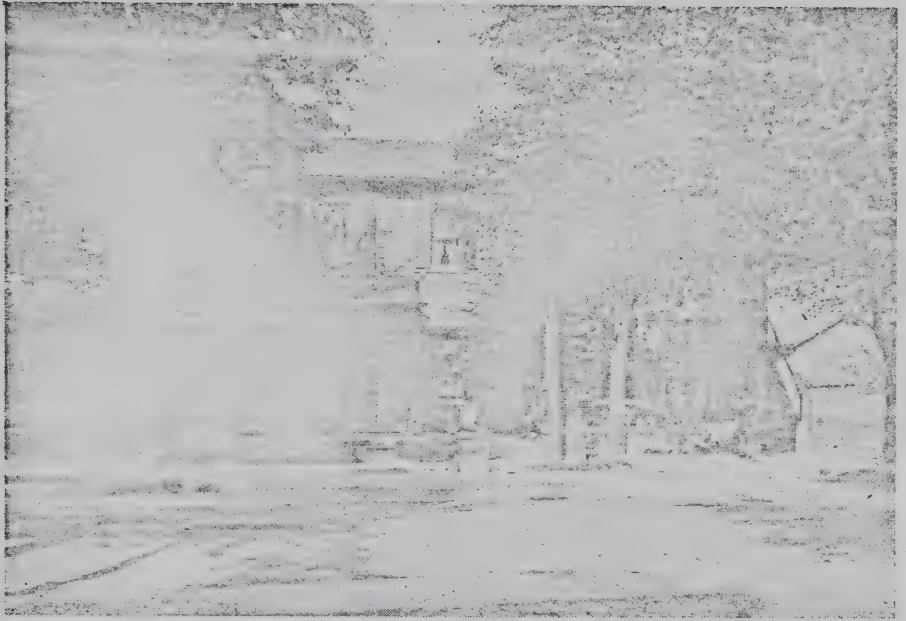
The Covington Water Works was first conceived in the summer of 1903. Test wells were drilled and land secured during the fall and actual construction started in 1904 with virtual completion in the spring of 1905. Superintendents of the water works have been: Charles Rudy (1905-1936), John Hecker (1936-1940), Alva Mutzner (1941-1942), C. D. Kellenbarger (1942-1949) and Leslie Zimmerman appointed in 1949 and still serving in that capacity. The water works is governed by the Board of Trustees of Public Affairs, a three member board duly bonded and elected for a term of two years. (The current board is composed of C. E. Peiffer, C. R. Crawford and W. C. Flory.) Operation and maintenance costs are financed by water rents collected quarterly. Water rates are established by the board and adjusted when necessary with the view of meeting regular operating expenses with a surplus sufficient to meet the requirements of equipment replacement. Currently, the village receives its water from three artesian wells (a fourth held for reserve) approximately 50 feet deep. The average 24 hour pumping to 835 metered customers is 300,000 gallons distributed from two water towers.

The Village Council on February 12, 1906, passed an ordinance permitting the P. C. C. & St. L. RR to construct a new railroad through Covington about one block north of the original tracks, said railroad to be elevated and to cross Main, High, Pearl and Wall streets with overhead bridges. Construction was started in 1906 by the Hoover-Kinnear Co. and the railroad was completed in 1907. A brick depot was erected on the south side of the overhead on the west side of High street but has since been torn down.

On May 12, 1907, Miss Florence Floyd was shot and killed near the present residence of Lawrence Supinger on West Broadway by Danny Dallulio, a worker for the Hoover-Kinnear Co. Dallulio then attempted suicide but lived to be convicted and died in the State Pen Hospital.

DURING THE latter part of March, 1913, rain came in torrential quantity for four days in succession and toward evening of Monday, March 24, the water had reached flood crest. The 1913 flood caused property loss in Covington of \$50,000 although no lives were lost. Total loss to the Miami Valley was 361 lives and \$66,765,574.

By a vote of 283 to 249, in a special election, the village voted to stay "wet" in 1916. The Armory was built just before Company A was called to the Mexican Border. They were sent first to Camp Willis, Ohio on July 3, 1916, moved in September to El



The Hill House or Hill Hotel in 1906. Now the site of the Dayton Power and Light Office.

Paso, Texas where they remained until March of 1917.

On January 17, 1917, Marshal Harvey Hake was shot and killed by Bert Warren, alias Bert Clark at the present site of Weaver's Barber Shop, which was at that time a pool room. Warren was convicted and died in the electric chair.

Company A left El Paso, Texas and entered Fort Benjamin Harrison to be mustered out but as world war was imminent, the order was recalled. After a short stay at Fort Benjamin Harrison, they were sent to Ohio on guard duty. On August 14, 1917 they were ordered to Camp Sherman near Chillicothe and later became part of the 148th Infantry, 37th Division, U. S. Army. They were also stationed at Camp Sheriden (Montgomery, Ala.) and Camp Lee at Petersburg, Virginia. On June 23, 1918, they embarked for overseas service on the U.S.S. Susquehanna and on July 5, 1918 landed at Brest, France and a short time later were detailed for service on the Alsace-Lorraine front. They also served at Vosges Mountains, Robert-Espange, Verdun, Meuse-Argonne, St. Mihiel, St. Jean, Weltje, Belgium, Olsene, Bellow Wood and Ypres. They returned to the United States March 28, 1919 and were discharged in April of that year.

From this period on, the village grew rapidly and as the population increased, the town expanded with it. In 1931 the present high school building was erected and equipped at a cost of \$140,000, a sum which was stretched to the limit and necessitated buying second hand equipment such as the present seats in the gymnasium which were taken from May's Opera House in Piqua. Once again our schools are inadequate, currently absorbing 839 pupils, 439 being transported from rural districts by six school buses. The administrative and teaching staff totals 29 and in 1952 the cost of administration was \$175,135.41. The schools are governed by the Board of Education, a 5 member body, duly elected to serve terms of four years at a compensation of \$3.00 per meeting, not to exceed 12 meetings a year. Present board members are: Helen Etter, clerk, Leslie Zimmerman, William Trembly, Kermit Stade, and Clarence Millhouse. J. L. Baker is Superintendent of schools, and Louis Apwisch, principal.

The local contingent of the Ohio National Guard was mustered into federal service October 21, 1940 and trained at Camp Shelby, Miss. before serving in World War II. The company was again federalized in January of 1952 and sent to Camp Polk, La. to train for service in the Korean campaign.

The present sewer system, formerly owned and operated by three independent companies, was combined in 1942 when the treatment plant was constructed, and has been under the control of the Board of Public Affairs since that time. The cost of construction of the plant and the tie-in of sewers was financed jointly by the PWA and sale of general taxation bonds, but before completion it was discovered that these funds were insufficient, and \$17,000.00 in mortgage revenue bonds were sold. The debt as of December 31, 1952 was \$17,000.00 in general taxation bonds and \$7,000.00 in mortgage revenue bonds.

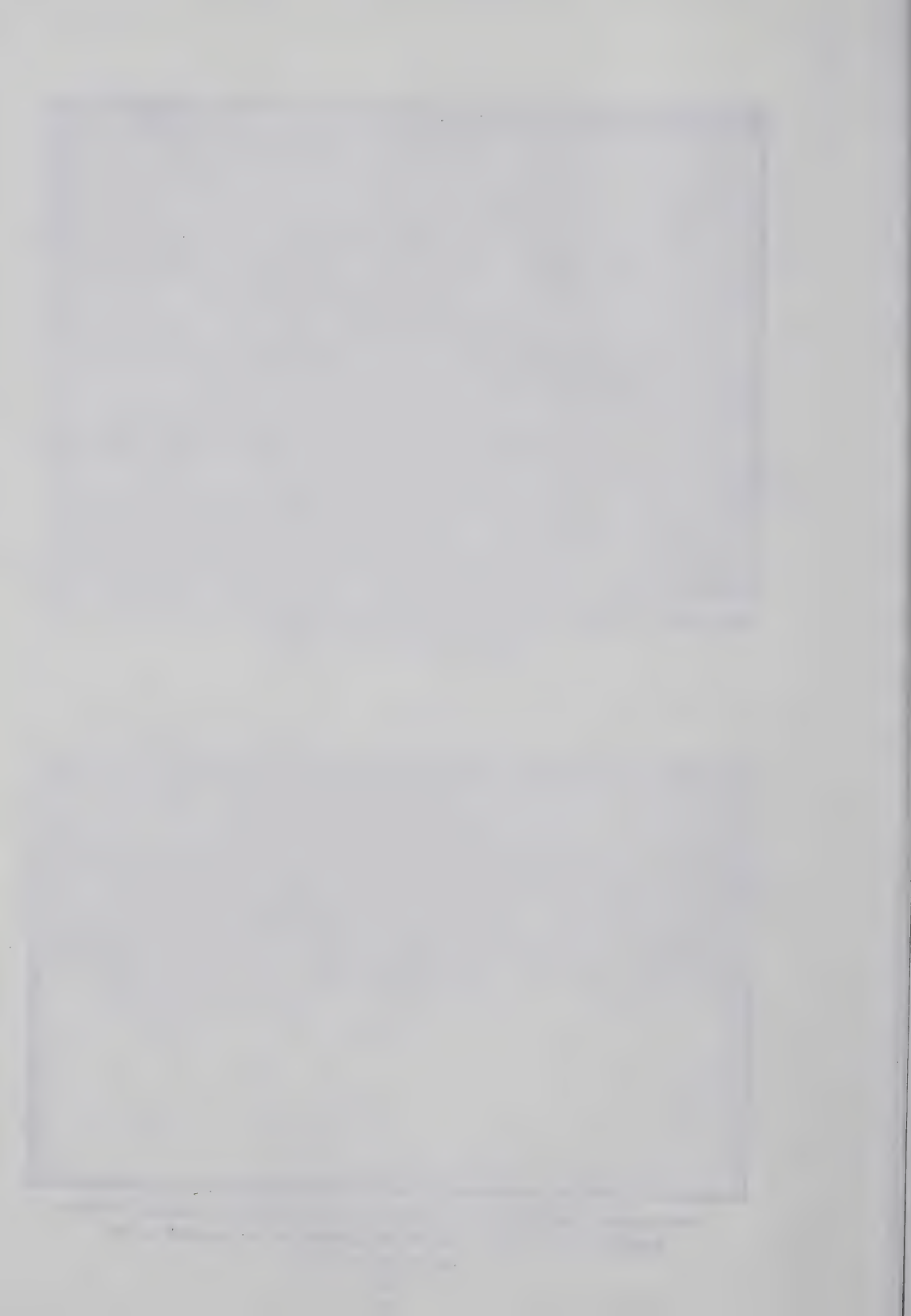
Rates are established by the Board so as to provide sufficient funds for operating and maintenance, and retirement of the revenue bonds as they become due. Until the revenue bonds are paid in full, it is illegal to use funds received for sewage treatment for any purpose other than operating expense, maintenance and repair, and bond retirement. Sewer extensions cannot be made with funds received from this source.



Pennsylvania Depot—1909. Now vacant lot north of the residence of Earl Adams on north High Street.



Minutes after this photo was taken, in 1913, this barn, situated in West Covington, just across the bridge, burned to the ground in the midst of the flood.



CITY OFFICIALS

City officials since the turn of the century have been:

- 1901—N. H. Nill, mayor; G. Dreese, H. Furnas, J. Metzger, O. Younce, C. Shafer and Lon Conover were councilmen.
- 1902—Election Results—N. H. Nill, mayor; J. G. Wagner, L. Simes, and E. Furnas, councilmen (only three elected). Harvey Hake was appointed marshal and served in that capacity until his death in 1917.
- 1903—Election—N. H. Nill, mayor; L. Simes, J. Metzger, Charles Boehringer, Jacob Kendell, D. D. Wine, and O. M. Finrock. J. Guy O'Donnell was appointed solicitor.
- 1904—Election—John Weaver, Hamilton Bartmess, and Albert Miller to the council.
- 1905—Election—R. F. Alberry, mayor; A. W. Minton, John Bashore and Forrest Hoover, councilmen.
- 1906—Officials were—R. F. Alberry, mayor; Dan Knoop, Forrest Hoover, John Bashore, A. W. Minton, John Weaver and Albert Miller. From this point on, a full council was elected every two years.
- 1907—Election—N. H. Nill, mayor; William Swisher, Willis Minton, Robert Himes, Charles McMaken, William Vandegrift and A. S. Rosenberger, councilmen.
- 1909—Election—R. S. Van Hise, mayor; J. H. Hecker, W. A. Reed, A. S. Rosenberger, L. A. Ruhl, E. W. Thomas and Henry Zollinger, councilmen.

Picture on the Right—High Street looking north from a point in front of the Red Men's Building about 1909. Frank Brown's Barber Shop (lower right) is now the site of the Post Office.



- 1911—Election—R. S. Van Hise, mayor; W. H. Reed, E. W. Thomas, L. A. Ruhl, J. H. Hecker, H. C. McCrossing and Samuel Hoeflich, councilmen (1910 population 1,848)
- 1913—Election—George Flammer, mayor; J. H. Hecker, Samuel Hoeflich, George Hollopeter, H. C. McCrossing, S. J. Rudy and L. A. Ruhl. (Flammer resigned and was succeeded by Joseph Miller)
- 1915—Election—Joseph Miller, mayor; R. W. Himes, Samuel Hoeflich, W. A. Reed, George Hollopeter, J. H. Hecker and L. A. Ruhl, councilmen.
- 1917—Election—Joseph Miller, mayor; Charles Boyer, A. W. Minton, J. H. Hecker, E. W. Thomas, W. A. Reed and W. C. Grabed, councilmen. E. C. Diltz appointed marshall. In 1918, Mayor Miller resigned and was succeeded by J. H. Hecker of the Council. S. A. Kraus was appointed to the council. E. C. Diltz resigned as marshal and was replaced by John Kraus. W. C. Graber resigned from the council and was replaced by E. S. Mohler who resigned 2 months later and W. C. Graber reappointed.
- 1919—Election—W. L. Marlin, mayor; C. E. Aspinall, Charles Boyer, D. B. Flory, Samuel Hoeflich, A. W. Minton, E. W. Thomas, councilmen. Charles Green was appointed marshal. (Population in 1920 - 1,885)

Picture on the Right—1911 Covington City Team left to right, front row Carl Minnich, Bill Wagner, "Shine" Wagner, Ray Minnich. Back row--Boyd Lyle, "Duke" Eberenz, "Pete" Fulker, Clyde O'Roark, Lynn O'Roark, Lester Neth, Lafe Hoeflich Ralph Minnich, Arthur Adams. This ball club, with Bill Wagner pitching, beat Phillipsburg 2-1 in the mill bottom. Pitching for Phillipsburg was Jesse Haines, later of the professional St. Louis Cardinals, The same year they also whipped Sidney 5-4, beating Al Hollingsworth, later of the Cincinnati Reds.



1921—Election—Blain Devor, mayor; Arthur Adams, C. E. Aspinall, D. B. Flory, J. H. Hecker, Harry Rice and W. E. Routzahn, councilmen. Charles Green, marshall.

1923—Election—Charles Maier, mayor; Arthur Adams, Charles Aspinall, John Furnas, Charles Ingle, W. C. Graber, and W. C. Paff, councilmen. M. W. Weikert was appointed marshal. Arthur Adams resigned and was replaced by A. B. Himes. Early in 1925, Charles Green served as marshall.)

1925—Election—Charles Maier, mayor; Ralph Minnich, J. H. Hecker, C. E. Aspinall, H. C. Rice, C. B. Ingle and A. C. Rhoades, councilmen. A. C. Rhoades was disqualified and B. C. Thomas was appointed. Fred Minnich was appointed marshal. (In 1926, Fred Minnich resigned and was replaced by Frank O'Roark. J. H. Hecker resigned and was replaced by W. H. Paff.)

1927—Election—George Hollopeter, mayor; D. B. Flory, B. W. Thomas, W. C. Flory, C. E. Aspinall, E. M. Fox and Charles Ingle, councilmen. Frank O'Roark was appointed marshal. (In 1928—W. C. Flory resigned and was replaced by John Kraus. E. M. Fox resigned and was replaced by S. J. Rudy.)

1929—Election—George Hollopeter, mayor; Levi Warner, J. L. Reck, E. S. Mohler, C. E. Aspinall, D. B. Flory and R. E. Armstrong, councilmen. (J. L. Reck resigned and was replaced by Fred Holsinger. E. S. Mohler resigned and was replaced by J. G. Rench.)

Picture on the Right—Fabulous Covington Cubs of 1912-13, a city team that gained wide recognition by beating every team in the area except one—ironically, another Covington team, The All-Stars. The Cubs, left to right Carl Minnich, Howard Johnston, "Duke" Eberenz, Lynn O'Roark, John Hoover, Lee Rudy, "Gyp" Ingle.





- 1931—Election—George Hollopeter, mayor; C. B. Maier, B. W. Thomas, J. G. Rench, C. E. Aspinall, D. B. Flory and J. R. Furnas, councilmen. (D. B. Flory resigned and was replaced by S. E. Holsinger.)
- 1933—Election—George Hollopeter, mayor; J. L. Hoover, C. B. Maier, Jesse O'Roark, C. E. Aspinall, S. J. Rudy and J. R. Furnas, councilmen.
- 1935—Election—George Hollopeter, mayor; C. E. Aspinall, C. B. Maier, S. J. Rudy, Jesse O'Roark, J. R. Furnas, Ira Gump, councilmen. (1936 E. B. Deeter replaced C. E. Aspinall; 1937 Paul Major replaced S. J. Rudy; 1937 Carl Felger succeeds E. B. Deeter.)
- 1937—Election—George Hollopeter, mayor; J. W. Giffin, C. B. Maier, Jesse O'Roark, Carl Felger, J. D. Huffman, and J. R. Furnas, councilmen.
- 1939—Election—George Hollopeter, mayor; W. H. Westfall, W. H. Perry, R. H. Wehr, J. D. Huffman, Jesse O'Roark, John Giffin, councilmen. (W. L. Schilling succeeds John Giffin. August, 1941 - Frank O'Roark resigns as marshal after 14 years service. Howard Johnston appointed marshal)
- 1941—Election—Joe Hoover, mayor; C. E. Warner, Jacob Reichman, C. J. Hoeflich, W. L. Schilling, Jesse O'Roark and M. H. Westfall, councilmen.
- 1943—Election—Joe Hoover, mayor; C. R. Crawford, H. M. Giffin, C. G. Reynolds, L. J. Adams, Jacob Reichman, and Jesse O'Roark, councilmen. (O'Roark resigned and was succeeded by C. E. Warner. 1945—Howard Johnston resigned as marshal and was replaced by W. L. Schilling.)
- 1945—Election—J. B. Neth, mayor; C. R. Crawford, C. G. Reynolds, Jacob Reichman, L. J. Adams, Lester George, J. L. O'Roark, councilmen. (March 1946—J. B. Neth died; C. R. Crawford appointed mayor and H. M. Giffin appointed to council. May, 1946—W. L. Schilling resigned as marshal and was replaced by John Tobias.)

1. The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study and the objectives of the research.

2. The second part of the paper describes the methodology used in the study and the data collection process.

3. The third part of the paper presents the results of the study and discusses the findings in detail.

4. The fourth part of the paper discusses the implications of the study and provides recommendations for future research.

5. The fifth part of the paper concludes the study and summarizes the main findings and conclusions.

6. The sixth part of the paper provides a list of references and sources used in the study.

7. The seventh part of the paper provides a list of appendices and supplementary materials.

8. The eighth part of the paper provides a list of acknowledgments and thanks to those who assisted in the study.



THE BLUE EAGLES of 1934—
Left to right, front row—Jim Gilfin,
Norman Miller, Mgr., Marvin Wood-
row, John Gilmore. Back row—
Lewis Finfrock, Leon Tyler, Ray
Hacker, Harold Minnich. This
flashy squad played such formid-
able foes as the Cincinnati Card-
inals, House of David and many
others in the Armory Hall on High
Street.

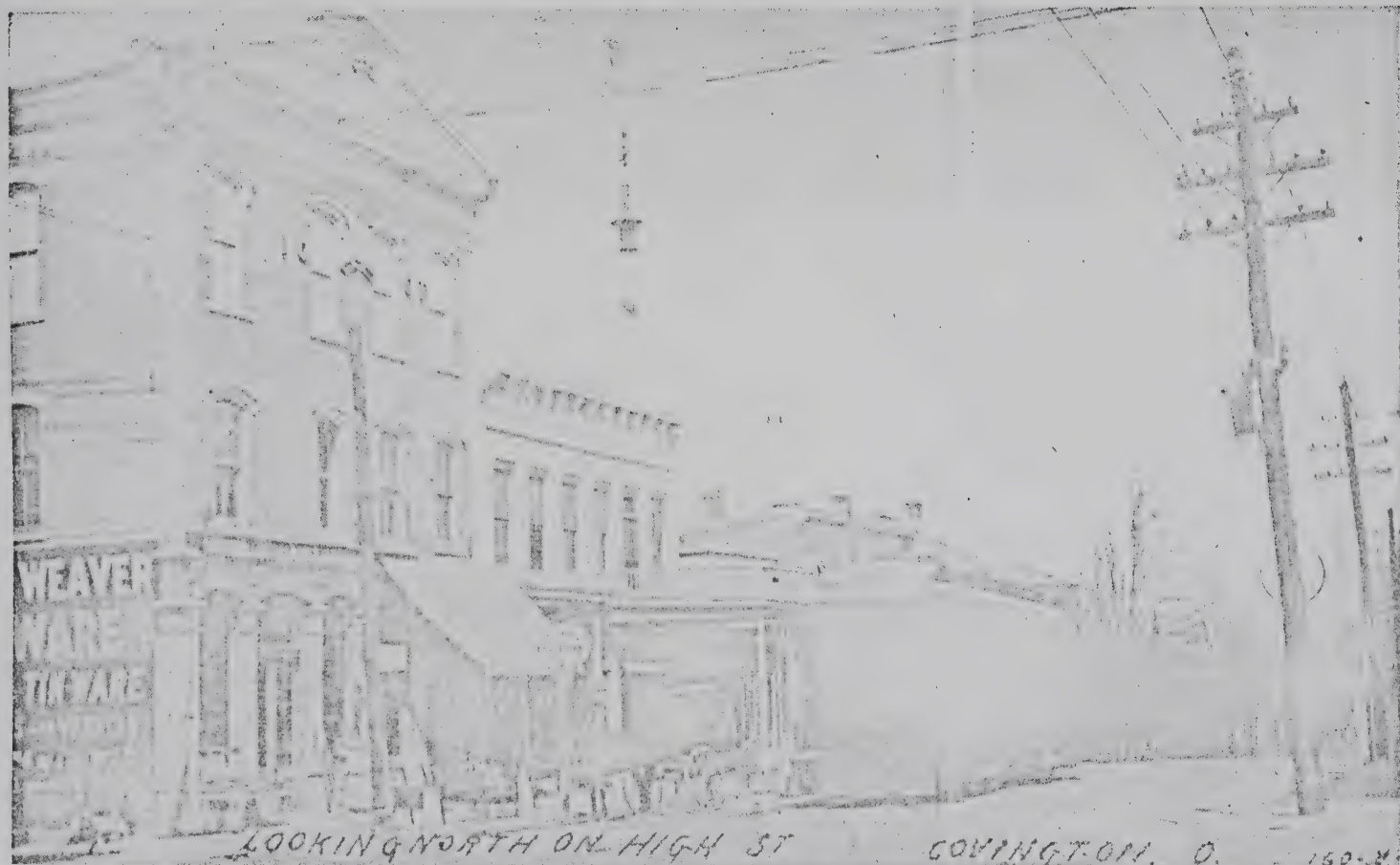
1947—Election—E. C. Diltz, mayor; L. J. George, Jacob Reichman, Samuel Hoeflich, J. L. O'Roark, John Mutzner, George Draher, councilmen. (Draher resigned and was replaced by Russell Little. 1948—John Tobias resigned and James Rice appointed marshall.)

1949—Election—J. D. Huffman, mayor; H. M. Giffin, L. J. George, S. G. Rudy, R. K. Johnston, J. L. O'Roark, Jacob Reichman, councilmen.

1951—Election—J. D. Huffman, mayor; R. K. Johnston, J. L. O'Roark, Dan Spencer, John Thompson, Fred Roberts, Roger Draher, councilmen. (Roger Draher resigned and was replaced by George Draher.)

Picture on the right taken in 1909.

47

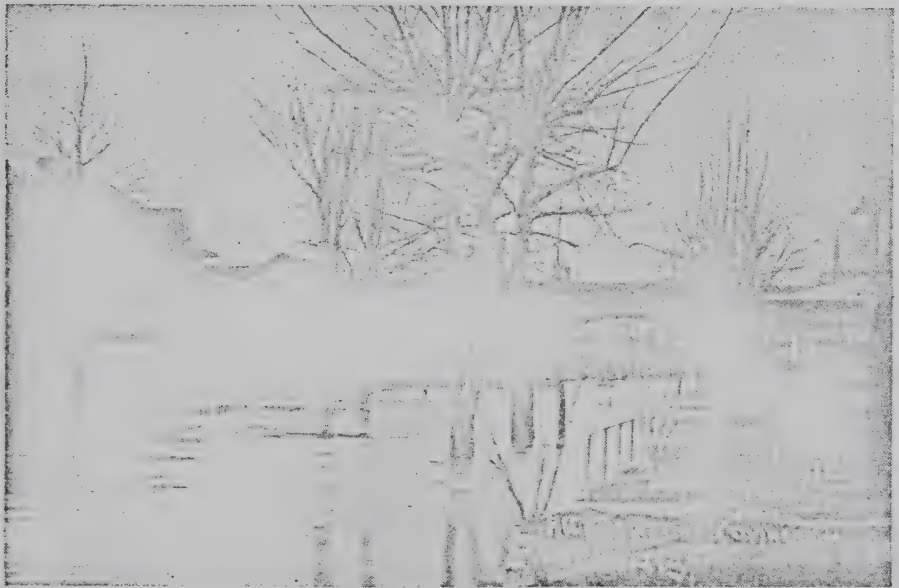


LOOKING NORTH ON HIGH ST

COVINGTON, O.

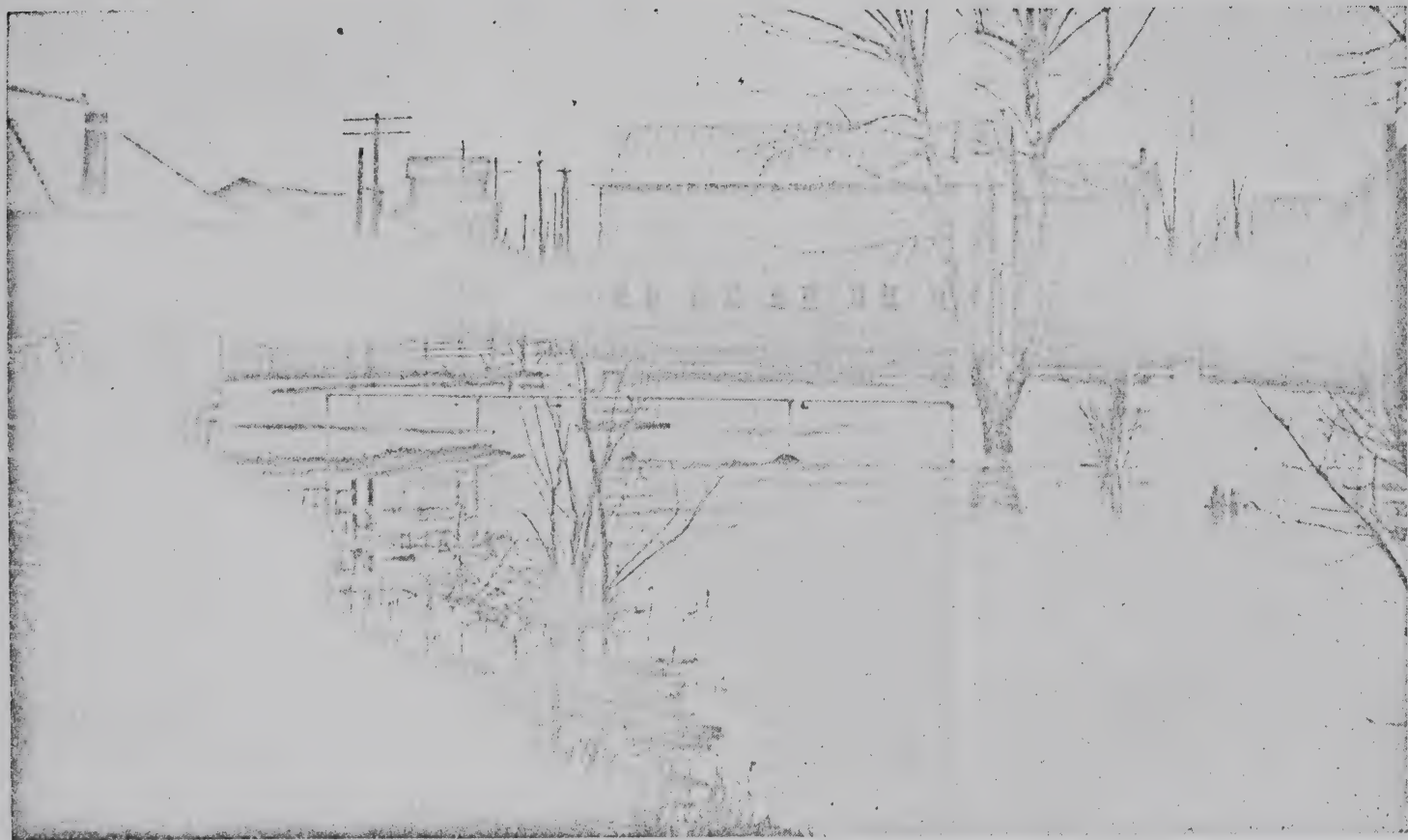


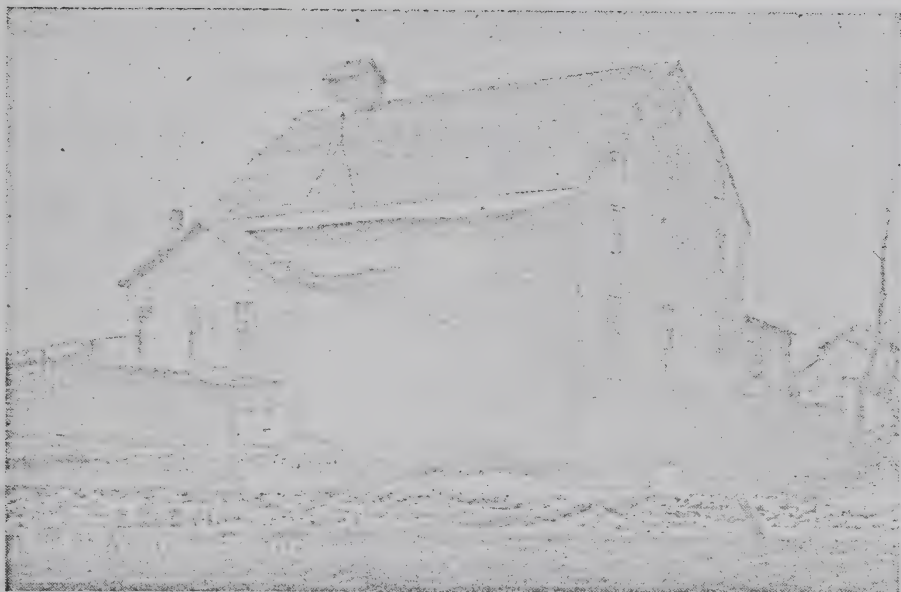
Water Works—1913.



North Pearl Street—1913.

Picture on the Right—1913. Intersection of 36 and 48 looking west from a point behind Brooks Service Station. Buildings, left to right—Fire house, Fence Stay Factory, Shuman Elevator, McGowan Livery Stable, Marlin Printing Shop, Residence.





The O'Roark Mill (Sycamore Bend) after the 1913 Flood.



The Woolen Mill, west of Covington after the 1913 Flood washed out the bridge.

Covington Church History

THE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN, at first called the German Baptist or Dunkards, first met in the Village of Covington in the church they built in 1869 on the southeast corner of Main and Ullery streets. Prior to this (since 1816) the congregation had met in the vicinity of Sugar Grove, in homes and barns and later built their first church on the Long farm, one-half mile north of Pleasant Hill in 1845. Four years later (1849) a stone church was built at Sugar Grove. Increased membership made necessary the splitting of the congregation, one group coming to Covington in 1869. The individuals responsible for the beginning of the church here were David Deeter, Michael Etter, Phillip Younce and John Cable, with Samuel Mohler coming a short time later. The denomination in Covington split in 1882, the progressives remaining in the original building and the non-progressives, calling themselves "Old Order Dunkards" moving to the brick building now occupied by Shafer and Boehringer, blacksmiths. This building they rented until 1892 when they erected the frame structure on the Farrington Road east of Covington. Rapidly growing membership necessitated the building of the present church at the corner of Wall and Wright streets in 1910-11. It was dedicated the first week of March 1911. Before the erection of the present church, the congregation was ministered by elders. Those of most prominence in Covington were: Samuel Mohler, James Quinters, William Boggs, James Neff, Jacob Coppock, Joseph Groff, D. D. Wine, Henry Gump, I. J. Rosenberger, P. H. Beery and Dr. A. S. Rosenberger. The first full-time minister was George W. Flory who served the church from March 1, 1910 until 1921. He was followed by C. F. McKee (1921-1929), O. P. Williams (1929-1930), J. O. Click (1930-1934), G. L. Wine (1934-1940), Ray O. Shank (1940-1951), and M. G. Wilson, the present minister who came in 1951. The present church membership is 423.

THE ST. JOHNS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH was organized in 1855 and for several years held services in a rented building. In 1863 the congregation purchased a frame building on South High street from Dr. Cable and converted it into a church. In 1875 the congregation built a brick church at the corner of Bridge and Wall streets. The tower was added in 1893. In 1904 and 1925 the church underwent extensive remodeling which made it the picturesque building it is today. The organizer and first minister was Constantine Koeberlin who served from 1855 to 1858. He was followed by John Hirsch (1858-1859), George Schaefer (1859-1872), H. Willert

(1872-1878), P. G. Schmegrow (1878-1883), E. H. D. Winterhoff (1884-1889), F. W. C. Wirchers (1890-1892), J. Humberger (1892-1897), L. F. Mittler (1897-1905), W. H. Brown (1906-1914), H. A. Brandt (1914-1917), H. C. Ter Vehn (1917-1921), B. L. Stroup (1921-1936), Russell Bussabarger (1936-1942), Paul Plasterer (1942-1947), James W. Miller (1947-1950), and the present minister, A. N. Albeck who came in 1950. Present membership—604.

ST. TERESA OF THE INFANT JESUS Catholic Church was erected about one mile east of Covington on State Route 36 in the year 1950. It was dedicated in the spring of 1951. The first pastor was Father Robert Von Kaenel of Piqua who served until the latter part of 1952. He was succeeded by Father Michael Hissen, the current pastor. The present membership is 210.

THE FIRST BRETHREN CHURCH was organized by Rev. Charles Gantt in 1946 and is located at the corner of Spring and Pearl streets.. Built about 1850 by the Methodists, the building has housed several different denominations, including the Tabernacle Sect. The first minister was Charles Gantt who was followed by Gerald Teeter, J. C. McKillen (1951-1952), James Young (1952), the present pastor. Current membership is 75.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH of Covington was organized January 31, 1838 as the Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church. The minister who organized the church and served as its first and seventh pastor was Rev. Felix G. Black. In the early part of May 1842 the church divided its membership into two parts, one to be in Covington and the other to be a new Cumberland Church in Piqua. In 1876 39 members left the church and formed the Bradford Cumberland Church. The present edifice was erected during the pastorate of Rev. J. L. Goodnight and dedicated May 9, 1886. On April 4, 1908 it became part of the Presbyterian Church in U.S.A. and the local congregation adopted the name First Presbyterian Church of Covington. Ministers — Felix G. Black (1838-1840), James H. Bristow (1840-1842), Thomas Thomas (1842-1844), J. H. Coulter (1844-1846), S. T. Stewart (1846-1851), David Jolley (1851-1856), Felix G. Black (1863-1871), H. D. Onyett (1871-1879), J. L. Goodnight (1879-1889), W. F. Silveris (1889-1892), J. Reed Morris (1893-1896), W. W. Beck (1896-1897), James D. Gold (1897-1903), Henry N. Barbee (1904-1909), Frederick G. Behner (1909-1912), John H. Gross (1912-1916), Harry L. Earnest (1916-1918), L. N. Montgomery (1919-1921), James L. Chestnut (1921-1926), William H. Christian (1927-1930), Frank C. Gleason (1930-1934), Donald E. Mitchell (1935-1941), Walter L. Taylor (1942-1945), Harold R.

Lutz (1946-1950) and the present minister, Claire Beatty who came in 1951. The present membership is 302.

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH — At the corner of High street and Broadway in a big log building, the first meetings of the Christian Church groups were held. The Covington Christian Church was organized by four men and three women October 1, 1837. It was first called the Church of Christ of Covington. The name was later changed to The Christian Church—when and by whom is not known. The church was organized in a schoolhouse located at the west end of Spring street. In 1846 a brick meeting house was built on the location of the present church but was razed in 1870 and a larger "meeting house" erected. This building served until 1890 when the present structure was erected, being dedicated October 25, 1891. The parsonage was built in 1903 and occupied in 1904. Past ministers: Caleb Worley (1837), Hallet Barber, James Fahnestock, Thomas Wells, Peter Banta (1851), Elijah Williamson (1852-1853), Asbury Watkins, James Sloan, William Furnas, John Ellis (1864), William Iddings, Levi Purviance (1866-1870), Richard Brandon (1870-1871), C. T. Emmons (1871-1874), G. L. Griffeth (1874-1878), H. Howard (1878-1879), Daniel Brewer, C. W. Choate (1880-1881), Matthew Jones (1882-1883). The above list were elders, the first regular minister being W. T. Warbington who served from 1883 to 1891. He was followed by C. E. Luck (1891-1895), W. D. Samuel (1895-1899), W. J. Reynolds (1899-1907), James McAllister (1901-1903), J. Pressley Barrett (1903-1907), John MacColman (1907-1909), George Conibear (1909-1913), William Flammer (1913-1914), Edwin B. Flory (1914-1920), W. A. Freeman (1920-1926), Omer S. Thomas (1926-1933), Harry Pearce Rogers (1933-1934), Cecil Leek (1934-1939), Ralph Brandon (1939-1941), Frederick B. Cook (1941-1947), and the present minister, Kenneth Stuckey who came in 1947. The present membership is 260.

Covington Fire Department

In 1880, the Council of Covington, Ohio purchased the first fire engine and the Fire Department was organized January 3, 1881. D. C. Shellabarger was named chief and G. W. Speelman, chief engineer.

In 1895 a second fire truck was added; 1896 a hook-and-ladder; in 1917 it motorized with a Model-T fire truck; 1927 a triple-combination fire truck; in 1936 a fire truck equipped with water tanks, 200 rotary and 500-gallon centrifugal pump. In 1946 the Fire Department itself added a high pressure fire truck, in 1951 an emergency truck

and late in 1952 the Council added a new fire truck, 300-gallon booster tank, ladders and other equipment.

Past Fire Chiefs were D. S. Shellabarger (1881-1882), N. Rplyea (1882-1886), George Dreese (1886-1890), G. W. Butt (1890-1892), D. M. Lower (1892-1895), William Dreese (1895-1897), C. G. Kraus (1897-1898), W. E. Westfall (1899-1902), J. V. Metzger (1902-1908), J. B. Neth (1908-1946) and Roger O'Donnell, appointed March 6, 1946.

At the present time the village and township are being served with three fire trucks and the emergency truck, 1500 feet of 1½ inch hose, 2500 feet of 2½ inch hose, two auxiliary pumps, recussitator and many other modern pieces of fire apparatus. In 1953 the department expects to add a new four-stall fire house to the department. All members of the department have completed the Kent State University Training Course. The department consists of 27 members and the chief.

The Covington Volunteer Fire Department is operated strictly by funds from taxation, the sum decided by the city council annually according to the anticipated needs of the coming year. Meetings are held on the fourth Tuesday of every month in which the members are paid the sum of fifty cents per meeting. Members also receive one dollar per alarm call within the city. To become a member an application for membership is filed with the secretary of the department, which must be approved by the city council, and if so he is then a member of the Covington Volunteer Fire Department and is compelled to abide by the by-laws of the department. If he misses two of three consecutive meetings without good reason he is subject to dismissal. The members of this department are protected by workers compensation paid by the city council. The equipment of the department cannot be used outside the corporate limits of the city.

The Covington Special Fire Department Inc. was organized in 1937 and incorporated under the corporate laws of the State of Ohio, to serve the rural areas surrounding Covington. No city or taxation funds are used for this department as they operate entirely on rural subscriptions which at present are three dollars per year. This department is controlled by a board of trustees whose officers are: Roger C. O'Donnell, president; Carl Miller, vice president; Jesse O'Roark, secretary; and J. L. O'Roark treasurer and are in no way ruled by the city council. Members of this department must be members of the Volunteer Department and are protected by insurance purchased by the Special Department. The operating radius is approximately ten miles in all directions from Covington. This department purchases and maintains all rural equipment (the emergency truck and liability insurance on the men and equipment). Any other revenue made by the departments is added to the general fund for the use of either department.

THE BUCKEYE STATE MUTUAL INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

The Buckeye State Mutual Insurance Association began as the German Baptist Mutual Fire and Lightning Insurance Association of Miami County, Ohio. In March of 1879 several prominent men of the German Baptist Church devised plans for an insurance company that would be officered only by men of their church. \$130,624 worth of risks were secured within a month by unpaid solicitors and the association commenced business on April 30, 1879.

Some of the earlier founders were: Samuel Mohler, Henry Mohler, Emanuel Hoover, Jacob Sensamin, Jeremiah Katherman, J. G. Bashore, Jacob S. Mohler, William H. Bashore and R. E. Cable. D. L. Gaskill of Greenville, Ohio was co-author of the law under which the association was formed.

On January 28, 1897 the association was incorporated under the laws of Ohio and authorized to insure "against loss by fire and lightning, cyclones, tornadoes or windstorms." After a brief experience in writing windstorm insurance the practice was abandoned. It then became an insurer against loss by fire and lightning only.

In the early days, the directors, five in number, met in the farm home of the secretary and there the business was conducted until 1912 when offices were established in the Newberry Township Building in Covington, Ohio. The offices remained in this building until January 1943 when the Baer Homestead, on the southwest corner of Pearl and Wright streets, was occupied by the association and is now the present offices. This building was purchased by the association in 1941.

In 1919 the stress of world conditions and public sentiment compelled the company to rid itself of it's title "German" and the title of "Buckeye State" was adopted.

Beginning March 1, 1945, the extended coverage endorsement including protection against loss by windstorm and eight other perils was offered to policyholders as an optional feature at additional cost. Assessments for this coverage are levied separately from the fire and lightning.

The Buckeye State Mutual Insurance Association is the largest farm-fire assessment mutual association in the State of Ohio. The association at the present time is non-sectarian but members must own tangible property in the State of Ohio. The present risks in force amount to over \$200,000,000 and the present officers are: J. N. Arendall, president and auditor; G. T. Browder, vice president; C. E. Warner, secretary-treasurer; Ella Driver, assistant secretary; Evelyn D. Wine, assistant treasurer; H. E. Frantz, adjuster-inspector. Additional directors are P. M. Chrisman, E. B. Deeter, J. H. Frantz, E. J.

Kimmel, W. P. Lytle, C. F. Orrison and James A. Rudy.

It is the constant aim of the management to increase efficiency, reduce losses, lower the rates and at the same time maintain a high quality of insurance service for all of the policyholders.

Donation

Business Directory

WITH SUPPLEMENTAL HISTORY

ADELE'S BEAUTY SHOP was formerly located in the building recently purchased by the Building and Loan and the business is currently dormant until a suitable location can be found in the village. Mrs. Adele Pipes, owner and operator, started in the beautification business 25 years ago in Richmond, Ind., and after one year there, became associated with the Frock Beauty Salons in Piqua and Troy, starting her own business in 1931 in Troy at the Hotel Lollis. In 1932, she moved her business to Market street in Troy where she kept a shop for 11 years. In 1943 she purchased the Vonette Beauty Parlor in Covington, still maintaining her shop in Troy for the next five years. Adele's Beauty Parlor was idled February 1, 1953 but will be resumed as soon as quarters are available. She will continue featuring hair-washing, permanents and any type hair-styling. Her former location was, at one time, the Bartmess Saddle Shop and Reish's Barber Shop.

AVON PRODUCTS are sold at 301 East Walnut street (Phone 239-W) by Mrs. Ella O'Roark who has been a representative of that company since 1940. She also handles a complete line of Perfection Household Products.—Available anytime.

B. & B. RESTAURANT, 11 North High street, Phone 124 — Stag bar and recreation room currently operated by Henry Bosserman and Dale Brant. Mr. Bosserman and "Happy" Brant purchased this business from Carol Flory in 1945, Dale assuming his father's interests in 1951. Short orders, beer, wine and sandwiches are served here six full days a week including evenings until 11. Mr. Bosserman is well-known to the community, having worked in the grocery business with Carol Flory for 23 years. This establishment has for many years been a tavern, and was previously operated by John Popp, Henry Ehlen, John Ehlen, Ted Shellabarger, William Steiffel and Carol Flory.

BARNHARDT BARBER SERVICE, East Wright street, is owned and operated by George Barnhardt who has followed the trade for some 40 years, starting with his father, S. S. Barnhardt who operated a barber shop for 44 years in what is now Forrest Miller's Insurance Agency on High street. George has previously worked for Lester Neth, Lee Dun-

ham, and Ed Reish and was in partnership in 1923 with Carl Peiffer in what is now Crawford's Appliance Store. He moved to his present location in 1943. This site has housed the Building & Loan and Herman Bayer Shoe Shop.

BEEMAN'S RECREATION, 25 North High street, Phone 117 came into being in August 1951 when Earl Beeman leased the pool hall, card room and bowling alleys from Carl Miller, who with D. L. Williams purchased it in 1935 from the Berryhill estate (Rench & Berryhill was the caption of this business for a number of years), with Mr. Miller assuming complete control in 1936. This building was built by A. B. Routson for a dry goods store (which extended to the corner and embraced what is now Burk's Drug Store.)

BEENER'S MARKET, 24 High street, Phone 45, is a modern grocery store and meat market open six days from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday till 8:30 and Saturday until 9:30 p.m., and is operated by Arthur L. Beener who has 24 years of experience at the meat cutting trade and grocery business. On this site was an elevated building in which Doctor Rosenberger occupied the north half. The south half was first occupied by Mrs. Townsend's Millinery Shop and later by Sherman Croft's Law Office. In 1910 the building was purchased by Henry Sexauer who remodeled the building to street level and operated a meat market. The building has since been a meat market and was sold and bought back by Mr. Sexauer several times and in 1928 was sold to William Steiffel who then sold to the present owners in 1931.

BENTZ IMPLEMENT CO., Troy Pike at the corporation limit, Phone 262, is open six days a week from 7 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. and offers a full line of John Deere Tractors and Implements; complete tractor and implement service and repair; Jamesway dairy, poultry and barn equipment; Brillion caterpillars; Goodyear and Firestone tires. This establishment is the property of Norman Bentz who purchased the business from Bili Uhrig and James Stevenson who built the building and started the concern in 1946. Mr. Bentz erected an addition to the building in 1948.

BOB'S GULF SERVICE, Corner of Spring and High streets, Phone 44, is operated by Robert Oser who came here Nov. 15, 1951, succeeding Bill and Bob Paff. "Bob" opens his station seven days a week from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. and operates a complete Gulf Service station; car washing and greasing; oil change; automotive repair; U. S. Royal tires. This ex-Navy man has 8 years experience in the business and previously operated service stations in Englewood, Bradford and West Alexandria. This building was erected and the business started in 1946 by Keith Langston and taken over by Bill and Bob Paff in 1950. This

was the location, in 1850, of the J. B. Dunning grocery store and through the years has been the site of Pete Wagner's Cobbler Shop, Barney Neth Butcher Shop, Maier & Belser, tailors. The rear of the building now houses the Stillwater Valley News and formerly the Clyde Fashner and Jack Giffin groceries.

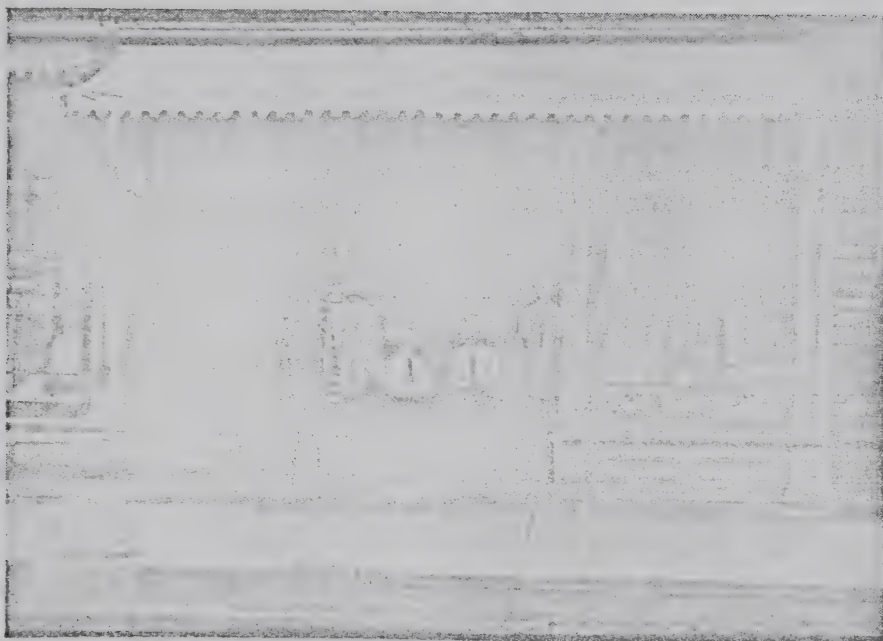
BROOK'S SERVICE STATION, Corner of Pearl and Broadway, Phone 295, is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m. and features Sohio products; tires, batteries, lubrication, candy, pop and cigarettes. It is the property of Bernie Brooks who has 21 years of experience in service stations, previously operating such a business at the east corporation limits on route 36. He opened the present business in 1946, purchasing the station in 1949. It was previously known as Williams Service. Charles Houser built the building about 1928. It was closed during World War II.

BRUMBAUGH RADIO & TELEVISION SERVICE, 305 Wenrick street, Phone 216-M is operated by Melvin F. Brumbaugh, a World War II veteran who started his business in 1947 after receiving training from I.C.S. This reliable technician features Emerson TV sales and service.

BUDEE'S RESTAURANT, 196 North High street, Phone 115 is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Fred Welbaum who opened the business here February 18, 1952, previously operating at the location immediately north which was at one time a fence factory, traction office and gas office and just recently torn down for the erection of a service station. The Welbaums have 12 years in the restaurant business and currently feature short orders, steaks, chops, chicken and seafoods.—Covington's only 24-hour restaurant. The present location was, at one time, the Henry Schloss Tavern.

BUD'S TAVERN, 137-139 South High street, Phone 75 is open seven days a week under the management of "Bud" Self and features beer, sandwiches, short orders and operates under the slogan, "Biggest Sandwiches and Best Beer in Covington." The original Hoeflich Tavern which occupied this site was moved west (the Charles Boyer residence) and the present building built by Samuel Hoeflich about 1886. Since that time it has always been a tavern operated by Carl, Lafe and Samuel Hoeflich until Mr. Self took over the establishment in 1949.

BURK'S DRUG STORE, North High street, Phone 205 — Mr. Burk carries a complete line of drugs, prescriptions, wallpaper, paint, magazines, soda fountain service and sells Rexall products as a specialty. Store hours are 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. The druggist, Merrit J. Burk, a graduate of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy in 1921, passed the examination of the State Board of Pharmacy



Ruhl and Fennemore Store (Now Burk's) about 1920.

the same year. He came to Covington in 1933 as an employe of the Shawver Drug Store and established his present business in 1938. On the site of this building, Noah Hanks built a small frame building for a general store which was the first frame building erected in the township and also the first store. This is estimated to be about 1820. Succeeding occupants were: Adams, Minnich, Routson and Huggins, A. B. Routson, who erected the present building; Routson and Harrison, Routson, Leonard and Kendell; Routson and Sowers, Routson, Miller and Neth; A. Routson and Sons, Ruhl and Fennemore, Jack Stahl, R. L. Hawes Variety Store and Burk's Drug Store.

CISSNER'S GREENHOUSE, 794 North Pearl Street, Phone 301-J is the property of J. C. Cissner who offers all kinds of flowers and vegetable plants. The Cissner Plant Gardens was founded in Piqua, Ohio in 1928 and moved to Covington in 1934. A small greenhouse was added in 1944 and the present one in 1946. The name, in later years, was changed to "Cissner's Greenhouse."

CITIZENS NATIONAL BANK, Northeast Corner of Wright and High streets, Phone 35—The Citizens National Bank, "the bank with family interest," was incorporated May 31, 1900 with a capital stock of \$25,000 and its first officers were: Henry Flesh of Piqua, president; J. W. Ruhl, vice president; J. L. Goodnight, cashier. Other board mem-

bers were J. G. Bartmess and S. B. Freshour. The first quarters were in the Worley business block, now Dunham's Barber Shop. In 1916, with business developing, the present building was erected and has just recently been remodeled. On December 16, 1936, four bandits, three of whom were armed, entered the bank at approximately 2:30 p.m. and locked the two employees, Kermit Stade and Ruby Deeter, in a back room and proceeded to rob the bank of between \$1500 and \$2000. Although never apprehended, the bandits were thought to be members of the John Dillinger gang. The bank today maintains a complete banking service to the public six days each week from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. except Thursdays when they close at noon. This bank is one of the few in Western Ohio that remained open during the Bank Holiday. They have maintained nearly 53 years of continuous banking service to a growing community; their depositors funds always available on demand. The bank is a member of the Federal Reserve System and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation with \$10,000 maximum insurance for each depositor. The present capitalization is \$283,000 with assets over \$3,500,000. The present officers are O. L. Hoover, president; S. L. Shellabarger and L. J. Deeter, vice presidents; K. E. Stade, cashier; Kathleen O'Roark and Ray Porter, assistant cashiers; Harriet Coon, teller and Betty Warner, bookkeeper. Members of the board are James Rudy, O. L. Hoover, S. L. Shellabarger, L. J. Deeter and K. E. Stade. As early as can be determined the site of the present bank building was the store of William Minton, general merchandise dealer in 1850. The next known business was the Thompson and Dye Arcade grocery. A new building was built by Aaron Ullery about 1890 and housed the Richeson and Ullery grocery which was followed by the M. B. Ullery Jewelry Store. The present building was built in 1916 and since has housed the Citizens National Bank. In 1953 the bank purchased the adjoining business room to the north which was, in 1869, the Harrison and Latchford drug and general merchandise store. Succeeding occupants were: Weaver and Kendell, doctors and druggists; Purdy and Dollinger, Ratcliff and Dollinger, Cramer, Rhinehart; Cramer and Shawver (all drug stores), J. S. Corwin Music Store, Shafer Shoe Store and from 1934 to 1947 the Arthur Himes Jewelry Store; Thad Ray, jeweler and L. Brotkins ready-to-wear ladies and childrens clothes.

CITY GARAGE, 213 East Bridge street, Phone 49—Day or Nite, is owned and operated by "Jim" Brunton who erected the garage and started the business in September 1947. This establishment features 24-hour wrecking service and complete automotive repair—heavy and light. Covington's only AAA garage; will work Sunday's in case of emergency. This well-qualified mechanic started in the trade under



The Bank Corner about 1910.

Orville Oyler at Bradford and built and drove his own race cars for eight years. He was previously employed by Hardenbrook's Garage in Piqua.

COVE THEATER, 17 North High street, Phone 40. Lee Holsinger is the present manager. In 1936 Joe Lee purchased the Favorite Theater from Mr. Allen Poe (then located in the O'Donnell building) and changed the name to the Cove Theater. In 1939, Mr. Lee purchased the Leonard estate and erected the theater at its present location. He operated it until 1948 when it was leased to Thomas Gunckle who held the lease until 1951 when it was purchased by Mr. Thomas H. Ryan of Dayton, the present owner.

COVINGTON AUTO REPAIR, 215 North High Street, Phone 280. This business was started in 1953 by Thomas E. Coate who conducts a general auto repair shop from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., six days a week. This building was erected by L. H. Coate about 1910. Mr. Coate operated a blacksmith shop here continuously until 1947 when the Covington Welding Shop occupied the building. (L. H. Coate previously operated a blacksmith shop a short distance north of the railroad, having been in that business prior to 1900.)

COVINGTON BUILDING & LOAN ASSOCIATION, North High street, Phone 15—was incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio on March 23, 1886. The first years of business were conducted in the rear of the Shellabarger Hardware Store, now the location of Streib's Plumbing and Tinning Shop. Then, as now, the savings of the members were accumulated to assist borrowing members to purchase or build homes. Mr. David Stephan secured the first loan on March 30, 1886 in the amount of \$200 to build the residence that now stands at 319 North Main street and is occupied by his son, Carl Stephan. The small institution was ably managed by John Alberry, the first secretary, from 1886 until 1900. The first board was formed with J. G. Wagner serving as president, Clark Adams, J. R. Shuman, Charles Boehringer, Dr. Jacob Kendell, Michael Maier and Col. J. C. Ullery as directors. Outgrowing the small quarters, the Association moved to the rooms now occupied by the Barnhardt Barber Service. Next it moved to the main thoroughfare, purchasing the small frame building which stood on the site now occupied by the Draher Radio and TV Shop. E. S. Mohler assumed the duties of secretary in 1900 and continued in that capacity until 1913, at which time he became Treasurer of Miami County. In 1913 J. L. Reck was elected secretary and managed the institution until succeeded by his son Lloyd in January, 1949. At the present time, the elder Mr. Reck is actively continuing his relationship with the Association by serving as its treasurer and director. Prior to the great depression in the early 30's, the Association reached the two million dollar mark. Although it remained solvent throughout the depression, the assets shrunk to \$750,000. The Association then became a member of the Federal Home Loan Bank and in October 1936 qualified for insurance of its accounts with the Federal Savings & Loan Insurance Corporation of Washington, D.C. Although many of its members remained loyal throughout the dark days of the depression, public confidence was restored and an unprecedented period of steady growth, extending to the present time, began. In 1916 the office was moved to its present location, 117 North High street, in the Kendell Building. In March 1951, the Association purchased the entire building and is now in the process of remodeling and expanding. The Association has now reached the \$3,250,000 mark in assets and serves more than 2500 saving and borrowing members over a wide area. In its 67 years of service it has financed many homes and provided a safe and profitable repository for the money of its members. Present directors are Ed Boehringer, president; W. C. Flory, vice president; J. L. Reck, treasurer; Carl Felger, W. H. Trembly, A. B. Himes, and E. B. Deeter.

Prior to the erection of the present building, this site was the location of a large dwelling, the south side of which housed the Ham-

ilton Bartmess Harness Shop and later, Ed Reish's Barber Shop and Mrs. Townsend's Millinery Shop. In 1916 the present building was erected by H. W. Kendell with Charles Bowdle of Piqua as the architect. The center section of the edifice has always been occupied by the Building & Loan. The south side was first occupied by the Gatch Studio and followed by the Hoverman Studio, George Miller, furniture and undertaking; Vonette Zea Beauty Parlor, and Adele's Beauty Parlor. The first occupants of the upper story were J. H. Marlin, attorney, and Dr. R. S. Van Hise, dentist. In later years, the upstairs was used as a hospital and now consists of apartments with the exception of Dr. Van Hise's office. In the early days of the building, the offices of Dr. H. W. Kendell comprised the north portion and later a partnership was formed between Drs. H. W. Kendell, L. A. Ruhl and —McKay, at which time the wall was extended several feet north, making room for all three physicians. The hospital was then started on the second floor. Shortly thereafter, Dr. McKay died and was replaced in the partnership by Dr. E. H. Britenberg, who stayed only a short time. Drs. Ruhl and Kendell continued the partnership until Dr. Ruhl opened his own offices in the Township Hall. Dr. Kendell continued the operation of the hospital until May 1941 although maintaining his practice until his death in 1947 when his practice was taken over by Dr. John Wilkins.

COVINGTON LUMBER COMPANY, 242 East Broadway, Phone 157 is one of 58 Peter Kuntz Lumber Yards and is currently managed by Mr. Elmer Wade who took the reins of the business nine years ago. This highly progressive and reputable concern features a complete building service, i.e., anything in the builders' line for home, farm or industry. The yard is open from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. five full days a week and from 7:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday. The establishment was founded in 1888 by Joseph Murphy on Peter Kuntz capital. It was owned at one time by George Worch.

COVINGTON MOTOR INN, Corner of Main and Broadway, Phone 96—This Shell Service Station is owned and operated by Leslie Rhoades and offers complete automotive service and repair; stocks a complete line of auto parts and has been, for 25 years, a Seiberling Tire headquarters. A general line of hardware also can be obtained here; bicycles, fishing tackle, outboard motors, etc.; also Norge and Philco Appliances; R.C.A., Philco and Motorola TV; radio and TV repair. This building was erected and the business founded by Leslie Rhoades in 1924-25 and has been an agency for Gray, Durante, Graham and Nash automobiles at different times. Mr. Rhoades was previously in the grain elevator and garage business with his father in Bloomer.

COVINGTON MOTOR SALES, 23 South High street, Phone 152 is operated six days a week from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. by Luther Landis and features new Chevrolet automobiles and trucks, genuine Chevrolet parts, Sinclair oils and offers complete auto repair along with 24-hour wrecker service. A reliable firm established by Mr. Landis 28 years ago first occupied the corner at Bridge and Main streets from 1925 to 1937 when Mr. Landis purchased the Chevrolet Agency and moved into the building on the southeast corner of Broadway and Main where he remained until 1941 when he moved to his present location. The age of this building cannot accurately be determined, but is one of the oldest in the village. Prior to 1900, it was occupied by the Curtz Furniture Company. In 1900 the Whitmer Bros. Furniture and Undertaking business entered the building and remained until 1914 when Walter Routson purchased the business, continuing operations there until 1941 when the Covington Motor Sales took over.

CRAWFORD'S APPLIANCE & PLUMBING SHOP, 16-18 East Wright street, Phone 87 is owned and operated by Cecil Crawford who came here in 1937, taking over the business previously known as the Westfall Plumbing Shop. The business was first established here 120 years ago by W. L. Fahnestock who made and sold pumps. In 1890 it was taken over by W. E. Westfall. Currently Mr. Crawford does business six days a week from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., keeping his store open until 10 p.m. on Saturday, offering Frigidaire Appliances, Domestic Sewing Machines, DuMont TV, Easy Washer and Youngstown Kitchens along with his usual plumbing business. A new addition is presently undergoing construction and promises to be one of the most modern stores in the county. The building recently torn down to make room for the new shop, has housed many different businesses, among them Mrs. Townsend's Millinery, the Yohey Cream Station and Vnette's Beauty Parlor. The west side of the present building has housed the Shafer Shoe Store, Dunham's Barber Shop and Barnhardt's Barber Service.

CRILE'S CAFE, 105 North High street, Phone 183, serves beer, wine, liquors, mixed drinks and sandwiches six days a week from 5:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The proprietor, Mr. Earl Crile, has operated the business for 10 years, having purchased it in 1943. Built about 1887, the first known proprietor was "Hickory Bill" Routson who operated a dry goods store. It was then sold to Lon Conover who conducted a hotel and restaurant. Mr. Conover was followed by the Cozzens and Brown Shoe Store, Lyle's Grocery, a bowling alley, Web Musser's Grocery, Cloverleaf Grocery, Harley Rhynard's Tavern and Crile's Cafe. In 1903, a barber shop was conducted upstairs by Ed Reish.

CROMER PHOTOS, 22 East Wright street, Phone 285, had its origin here in August, 1947 and is owned and operated by Paul Cromer who opens his shop from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. (closed Thursday afternoons) and from 9 till 9 on Saturday. Paul obtained his training at the Dayton Art Institute, New York Institute of Photography, Winona School of Photography, Eastman Kodak School of Photography and Miami University. He offers complete commercial and portrait photographic service including aerial and color; complete photographic, camera and equipment sales and photo finish;—candid wedding and family groups a specialty. This building was built by Aaron Ullery about 1895 for a post office and has housed: M. B. Ullery, jeweler; Willie Kauffman's Cigar Store, the gas office, Himes Jewelry Store Don Hill's Grocery and Etter's Music Store. The second story has been occupied by Wm. Townsend Studios, and F. W. Weeks Studios.

DRAHER RADIO & TV—"Complete G.E. Store"—110 North High High street, Phone 134. Twenty-five years of experience backs this reputable firm which offers complete radio and TV sales and service along with a full line of General Electric Appliances. The business is owned and operated by George Draher who first started in the trade at his home east of Covington on route 70; then moving into the village on Thompson street and thence to Maple street. He entered the present site in June of 1946. A frame building formerly occupied this spot and was built by Rush Reynolds for a post office. He also operated a confectionary and grocery here. It next housed the Building & Loan, followed by the Oscar Boggs Electric Shop, which occupied the site when it burned down. The present edifice was built by John Rench and has contained: Gatch Studio, Hoverman Photography, Paul King's Restaurant, Morelock's Hamburger Shop, Jones Candy Shop, Mae's Fashion Shop and possibly a few others.

DREES LUMBER COMPANY, 401 East Spring street, Phone 233 — Dealers in retail and wholesale hardwood; custom sawing; (Will buy all kinds of standing timber.) This lumber company is currently owned and operated by David U. Drees who literally grew up in the business which was founded by his father, Will Drees in 1887, in partnership with a brother George, just west of the present site. This partnership dissolved a few years later and Will went into business in the surrounding area with a portable saw mill, returning to Covington and establishing the present business in 1902. David Drees has been sole owner and operator since 1949. He was previously associated in the potato chip business at the rear of the residence of Robert Rudy.

DUNHAM'S BARBER SERVICE, 113 North High street, is owned and operated by Lee Dunham, who has as his assistant Robert Tucker. This shop dates its origin back to Lee's father, Frank Dunham, who in the earlier years operated a barber shop in what is now the telephone exchange (upstairs.) Frank Dunham then moved to Greenville but in a short time returned to Covington and opened a shop in the Commercial Hotel (across High street from the Richard Etter residence), where Lee took up the trade under his father's guidance. This father-son combination then moved into the building presently occupied by Crawford's Appliance Shop and in February 1917, moved into the present location which formerly housed the Citizens National Bank. The shop started here with four chairs and during the course of the next decade employed Ray Kiser, Glenn Coate, Clarence Stoner, Ed Stout, Harry Miller, George Barnhardt and Robert Tucker. In 1926, Isabelle Thompson and Lucille Worch operated a beauty parlor in the rear of the shop. Intermittently, a shoe shine stand has been operated by numerous high school students. Robert Tucker learned the trade under Dunham while still attending high school and immediately after but left the barbering service to become affiliated with the National Geodetic Survey, returning to the profession in 1950.

E. B. DEETER, Agent, Buckeye State Mutual Insurance Association, 304 Grant Street, Phone 63-W.—Mr. Deeter has 50 years experience with this association, having started as an agent in 1903. From 1924 to 1947, Mr. Deeter served the firm as adjuster. He is, at the present time, a member of the board of directors. Mr. Deeter offers fire, lightning and extended coverage insurance, including windstorm.

EAST END SINCLAIR SERVICE STATION is located at the east corporation on East Broadway and operated by Bernie Burnside, a Korean War veteran and his partner, "Shorty" Swartz, a World War II veteran. They handle a complete line of Sinclair Products, tires, batteries and auto accessories. Service includes lubrication and car washing. This station was built by Con Drees in 1926 for the purpose of a gas station. Con Drees was the first operator, followed by Bernie Brooks, Printz & Zimmerman, Wirrig & Shields and the present occupants who started January 3, 1953. Several others attempted business here but only for a very short time.

EBRENZ BAKERY, 22 North High street, Phone 127 is owned and operated by Martin F. Ebrenz who learned his trade while in the U. S. Army during World War I, giving him 34 years of experience. The business originated in 1875 when "Duke's" father, Charles Ebrenz, came to Covington and purchased the Adam Long Bakery which at that time was two doors south of the present Maier Grocery. The business was then moved to the building now occupied by Mae's

Fashion Shop where a soda fountain and restaurant was added. In 1900, Charles Ebrenz built the present site and the bakery has continued there under Gus and Guy Ebrenz (brothers of the present owner), until taken over in 1933 by the current proprietor. A complete line of baked goods can be obtained here along with canned goods, ice cream and candy; no meats are sold.—78 years a family concern.

ESHLEMAN FUNERAL HOME, 160 North High street, Phone 93 —24-hour ambulance service—Mr. Eshleman, with 29 years' experience in the undertaking business, came to Covington in 1938 and founded the Eshleman Funeral Home at its present location which he remodeled in 1949. On the east end of this lot, Elijah Reagan shortly after 1805, built the first house in the confines of what is now the Village of Covington. Shortly thereafter, on the west side of the lot, Michael Ingle built a double log cabin. Here later was the mansion of H. E. Routson and the H. E. Routson Livery Stables. The present building was erected by William "Hickory Bill" Routson. The H. E. Routson mansion was moved to North Pearl street and is now the residence of Earl Shields.

ETTER GUNSMITHING, 168 North High street, Phone 81-J—Operated by Richard Etter, this business was established in 1933 and offers complete firearm repair. This edifice was once the site of the David Landis undertaking business.

ETTER INSURANCE AGENCY, Sycamore Bend, R.R. 1, Phone 173-J—"We have a complete line of insurance"—Travelers' Insurance Co., Gulf Insurance Co., Minster Mutual Insurance Co. Thirty-five years of insurance experience backs this reliable agent, P. R. Etter.

ETTER MUSIC COMPANY, 12 North High Street, Phone 257 —Musical instruments, connsnata organs, music, records, toys and musical instrument repair can be had at this establishment. The proprietor, Mr. G. F. Etter, with 17 years experience in instrument repair and 35 years of professional playing, founded the business in 1949 in the building now housing Cromer's Photo Shop. He moved to his present location in January, 1952. This building was erected in 1885 by George Miller for a shoe shop. Mr. Miller was followed by: John this no building occupied this site. Mr. Miller was followed by John Metzger Harness Shop, Pete Boehringer Saloon, John Teague Saloon, John Miller, tailor; Kinney and Chambers Clothing, Gertrude Whitmer Millinery, gas office, Heighton Candy Company and the Etter Music Company. The upstairs was once occupied by R. S. Van Hise, dentist; J. Guy O'Donnell law offices (1914) and the law offices of Roger C. O'Donnell (1928), who still occupies these premises. At one time, the rear of the building housed the offices of the Covington

Woolen Mill Co. Present owner of the building is R. C. O'Donnell. In 1850, this location was occupied by the chair and cabinet shop of James L. Purdy.

FENNER GREENHOUSES, ¼ Mile East of Covington on Route 36, Phone 137, is owned and operated by G. Harrison Fenner who purchased the business in 1948 from Harley Petersime. Mr. Fenner came here from Dayton where he and his father operated a similar "Fenner Greenhouse." Fenner learned his trade in Dayton under his father and while employed at Robert Deal's Greenhouse in Dayton and now boasts 10 years experience at the florist's trade. This business is a member of Telegraph Delivery Service and carries a complete line of flowers for all occasions with seven-days-a-week service and special service for weddings. The greenhouses were built and operated, originally, by Raymond Wills.

FILBRUN'S MARKET, 103 North High street, is open from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. except Thursday when closing time is 12 noon., Friday 8 p.m. and Saturday 9 p.m. Paul Filbrun operates this meat headquarters and White Villa grocery. He was formerly employed at the J. L. Hoover Grocery and Albers Supermarket in Dayton and has been toiling at the trade for 10 years. The meat block upon which Paul performs his duties, was once owned by Henry Sexauer, earlier businessman of the village. Mr. Filbrun took over the business December 1, 1952 from Herman Risenbeck. The building was built in 1882 by George Hendrichs for a meat market and grocery (it extended to the corner), but in later years it housed a restaurant owned by: Bill Landis, Charley Hardenbrook, Louie McClellan, Bert Shilling and Ramer Jones. More recently it was a meat market and grocery operated by Herman Risenbeck. (Jack Wray of Troy operated the grocery end for some time.)

FINFROCK CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, 235 College street, Phone 153-J—General contracting, curb and gutter a specialty; all types concrete work; air hammer service, etc., is operated by Roger Finfrock who started contracting in 1943 although he has been associated with construction work for 40 years. During peak season, this firm employs an average of 10 people. "Finny" was formerly in the garage business at the corner of Main and Bridge streets from 1920 to 1924.

FLORY INSURANCE AGENCY, 9 North High street, Phone 66—Insurance—Fire and extended coverage, automobile, liability, casualty coverage and personal liability and farm. Open from 8:30 to 5 p.m. six days a week. W. C. Flory is the proprietor and has been in this business since 1947, having previously operated a grocery store

at the corner of High and Bridge streets for 33 years. This building was erected in 1871 to house the Stillwater Valley Bank, which occupied the building until going out of business in 1931. It was then occupied by Purdy and Kerns Insurance until Mr. Flory's purchase. The upstairs was occupied by the I.O.O.F. Lodge and then sold to the K. of P. Lodge. In 1850 this was the site of E. H. Ditzler & Drees Tailor Shop.

G. & C. WELDING & WHEEL ALIGNMENT SERVICE, 586 South High street, Phone 61, is owned and operated by Clifford Millhouse and George Westfall who each have better than 10 years experience at this business. This Standard Oil Service station offers general auto and truck repair; Bear wheel alignment and balancing, in addition to complete welding service. Also, the EZ-A-RIDE Equalizer is manufactured here. This is an ingenious device that takes the place of helper springs and dollies for house trailers. These progressive owners first started a welding shop in the old Rench Buggy Shop (the building recently torn down that stood mid-way on the north side of the alley running side of the Kendell residence), in 1946. The business was moved to the old Coate Blacksmith Shop on North High street in 1947 and then to the present location December 1, 1952.

This building formerly housed Thompson's Garage and John Kraus' cigar factory.

GEORGE'S FUEL SERVICE, East Broadway, Phone 73—The proprietor, Lester George, has been operating this coal business since 1946 with his business hours being 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., six days a week. In 1863 a tile factory was started on the farm of Henry Mohler, southwest of Covington and after one year of operation was moved to the site of George's Fuel Service and operated by Samuel and John Mohler. Mr. Jacob Wagner purchased the business in 1877 and later added bricks to his manufacturing line. In the genesis of the tile factory, the kilns were fired by hardwood purchased from the farmers. In later years, coal was used in the kilns and was the leading factor for the start of the coal retailing business which was taken over by Con Drees in 1918 and operated continuously until 1946, when it was leased to Lester George. The buildings on the coal yard were erected by Con Drees in 1924.

GIBBONEY AUTO SALES, 144 North High street, Phone 140, is owned and operated by Harry Gibboney, long-time businessman of Covington and surrounding area. Mr. Gibboney first entered the business world in 1921 by operating a milk route in Covington. At this period in history, the milkman actually milked the cows and bottled his own milk before delivery. (Dick Baker was his first employe.) A short time later, the milk was bottled by the Westerville Creamery

Co. and Mr. Gibboney is believed to be one of the first to operate a rural pick-up route, hauling directly from the farm to the bottling plant. During this period, Mr. Gibboney also sold Ford automobiles for the Meyer and Warner Co. and in 1925 started a Chrysler agency in what is now Weaver's Barber Shop; moving the agency a short time later to the building now housing "Woody's" Sunoco Service. In 1927, Harry started a restaurant in the old firehouse (Northwest corner of Pearl street and Broadway) and in 1928 moved to the building now occupied by Wetzel's Restaurant. Also at this time, Mr. Gibboney sold Willys-Overland automobiles in the building now housing Shafer's Shoe Store. During the black days of 1929 and shortly thereafter, Mr. Gibboney was associated with the Sears Roebuck & Co. in Jefferson City, Mo., and Toledo, O. His next business venture came in 1933 when he purchased a restaurant in the old Commercial Hotel from a Mr. Shurnaker. In the rear of this building he started a wrecking yard. In 1937 he took the Ford agency in what is now the D.P.&L. building, remaining there until 1939 when he moved to the Taylor building, (Southeast corner of Main and Ullery streets.) The following year Mr. Gibboney took over the Ford agency in Piqua and in 1941 the Ford Tractor agency in Greenville which he kept until 1949, when he retired temporarily. He returned to the auto business at his present location in 1952, although in 1950, he operated a "Bargain Barn" on route 36, one-half mile west of town. The building was built by Pete Taylor about 1930 for a garage and Chrysler agency; was leased to Ted Shellabarger and then to Harry Gibboney.

HARTLEY, MRS. IRA, 141 North High street, Phone 245-M, has been buying and selling antiques since 1939 and was formerly located two doors north.

HECKER, JOHN, Appliance repair, 19 West Bridge street. — Mr. Hecker, in 1898, started to work for D. C. Shellabarger where he learned the tinning business. In 1906 he went into business for himself in the building now occupied by the Charles Miller Motor Service where he was engaged in the plumbing and tinning business. In 1908 he moved to the fence factory buildings on the southeast corner of Broadway and High streets. While at this location, he added electrical and auto repair to his business. In 1912 he purchased the site where the Kendell and Purdy elevator burned down (formerly the Empire Livery Stable) and here erected the building which now houses the Covington Hardware Store. In that year, Mr. Hecker added roofing, furnaces and appliances to his business which he called "Hecker's Automotive, Electrical and General Supplies." He discontinued business in 1931. Mr. Hecker served as mayor of the village three times, finishing terms of resigning mayors; served 15 years on the city coun-

cil; 12 years on the cemetery board and was superintendent of the water works from 1935 to 1941. The Hecker building, since 1931, has housed the Trembly Cigar Factory, Joseph Lincoln Mfg. Co. and Covington Hardware.

HEIGHTON BROTHERS' CANDY CO., 110-140 East Broadway, Phone 298, is owned and operated by Alden and Roger Heighton who started business in the Kramer Building in February 1946 along with another brother, Douglas, whose interests were purchased in 1951. This company manufactures, retails and wholesales many different kinds of confections and ship their products throughout the entire United States. The owners literally grew up in the candy business under their father, Walter F. Heighton, who operates a candy store in Piqua. The growing business demanding more room, the company erected their present building in 1951 and opened their retail store June 13, 1952 featuring a complete line of candies, ice cream, sodas, etc. The business is open seven days a week and evenings.

HEIN HARDWARE, Corner Wright and High streets, Phone 34.— This store is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. five days a week and from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. on Saturday featuring a general line of hardware and seeds. The proprietors are Ed and Hy Hein who purchased the business in 1953. Mr. Hein has 36 years of experience in the hardware business and Mrs. Hein 20 years. Their motto is: "If You Want It, We'll Get It." Prior to the erection of the present building the site was occupied by a grocery store. The building was built in 1882 by George Hendrichs who operated a butcher shop and grocery store. The second floor at that time contained the mayor's office while the third floor housed a skating rink until about 1900 when it was purchased by the I.O.O.F. Lodge. Previous ground floor occupants were the John Weaver Hardware Store, followed by Leach Hardware, Harris Hardware, James Arendall, Aspal Hardware, Standard Hardware and the present establishment.

HOLE'S GROCERY, 188 North High street, Phone 85.— Retailing a good line of groceries and meats, Mr. Leland Thompson serves the public seven days a week from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m., Saturday till 10. This building was built before 1880 and in the early days was the tavern of Henry Hendrichs, followed by George Hendrichs' restaurant. The building was used as a dwelling for many years until a grocery store was started during World War I by Gus Schmidt. He was followed, in the same line of business, by Virgil Weaver, Hole and Van Hise, C. L. Hole and the present owner.

HOOVER'S GROCERY, 226 North High street, Phone 47, is owned and operated by J. L. Hoover and features the Eavey line of fine foods plus a complete line of meats accompanied by free delivery service. "Joe" opens his store from 7:30 a.m. until 6 p.m. (Thursday till noon, Friday till 8:30 and Saturday until 10.) Mr. Hoover started in this line of work after returning from service in World War I in 1919 and working for Ivor Shafer who had previously purchased the interests of his partner, W. C. Shuman. Mr. Shafer moved the business, in 1927, to what is now Weaver's Barber Shop. In June of 1928, Mr. Hoover purchased this store and continued there until 1929 when he moved to his present location. While "Joe" was doing business at the Weaver site, a grocery was being operated at his present location and at different times by —Wills, —Boehringer, and Walter Maier.

Mr. Hoover, celebrating his 25th year as a businessman in Covington, is currently remodeling and modernizing his store.

HUNT'S BOOTERY & REPAIR, 109 North High street, is open six days a week from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., Saturday till 9 and handles a complete line of shoes from size 0 babies to size 12 mens', with "shoes for all the family" and complete shoe repair with the invisible half-sole. One of the outstanding services of the store is their guarantee—ask about it. The manager is Jack Hunt who says "Your Smile is the Goal of this Store." This building was built during the Civil War period by George Howalt for a shoe shop. He was succeeded by the Charles Boyer Shoe Shop and later by Bob Marr's "Green Canary" Tavern and Mock's Restaurant. Mr. Paul Hunt, owner, purchased the present business in 1947 which was preceded by the Herman Bayer Shoe Shop.

INGLE PLUMBING SHOP, 119 South High street, Phone 58 — Mr. Charles B. Ingle, owner, sells and installs plumbing and heating equipment and also handles Westinghouse appliances. His store is open six days a week from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., Saturday till 9. William "Hickory Bill" Routson erected this building in 1885 and operated a grocery and dry goods store. Some of the succeeding businesses were: Fletcher 5 & 10 cent store, Swadner Mattress Factory, Charles Miller 5 & 10 cent store, Paul Drees Grocery, Harley Petersime Grocery, John Ingle & Son Plumbing and the present Ingle Plumbing Shop, established in 1948.

JOSEPH LINCOLN MANUFACTURING CO., INC., South High street at the corporation limits, Phone 200.—Manufacturer of stretch form pliofilm material into various items such as hat covers, used in packing men's hats; hat linings, meat product wrappers, shower caps and related products. The Joseph Lincoln Manufacturing Company

was founded in 1938 in Covington, Ohio by Roy J. Weikert in partnership with Carl L. Via. The first factory was located at the residence of Mr. Weikert with improvised equipment and facilities at a capitalization of about \$100. The factory was moved in 1939 to East Broadway in the Con Drees Toy Shop and from there, in 1940, to the building now occupied by the Covington Hardware Store at 173 North High street. In 1941, the business and partnership were discontinued due to World War II. The factory was resumed in February 1946 by Mr. Weikert on the upper floor of the George Patty Store in Bradford where it remained for approximately one year, moving in 1947 to the Sellman warehouse on Bridge street, here. The business was incorporated in March, 1948 under the corporation laws of the State of Delaware. An office was established in the Township Building in 1949. The present modern office and factory was started in 1950 and completed in 1952. The company's present capitalization is more than \$50,000 and it employs ten people working an average five-day week. Present officers are Roy J. Weikert, president and treasurer; Wayne Weikert, vice president, and Mrs. I. W. Weikert, secretary. Mr. R. J. Weikert is a veteran of World War II, attended the University of Dayton, Columbia University and graduated from Ohio State University with a business administration degree.

KESSLER TRACTOR SALES, East Walnut street, Phone 56, offers Ferguson Tractors and Implements and complete tractor repair. The proprietor, Emerson Kessler, is backed by nearly 10 years of experience in the tractor business and founded the Kessler Tractor Sales in 1949, erecting the present building in 1951. Mr. Kessler is the only Ferguson dealer in Miami County. Business hours are from 8 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., six days a week.

KIMMEL PLUMBING & HEATING, 194 East Broadway, Phone 185.—J. Dan Kimmel learned his trade 29 years ago under Robert Kell of Piqua and opened his business here in 1948. The rear of this building was first a workshop for the tile factory which Mr. Con Drees took over in 1909 from J. G. Wagner. Mr. Drees then started manufacturing castile toilet soap here and also bought talcum powder by the carload, perfumed and packaged it and sold it as the Con Drees Manufacturing Co. Immediately following World War I, Mr. Drees started manufacturing sheet metal toys in this building, a business he continued until 1933. In later years the building was occupied by the Lee Harp Electrical and Engineering Shop.

KINNEY'S MENS & TAILORING SHOP, 20 North High street, Phone 198 is owned and operated by Melvin Kinney who is currently assisted by his son James. Mr. Kinney's first experience in this line came while he was employed by Flesh & Louis and C. E. Barker & Co. in Piqua for some 10 years prior to 1913. On March 1, 1913, with Joe Chambers as a partner, Mr. Kinney started in business in Covington in the building now occupied by "Smitty the Barber." The business moved, January 19, 1916 to the present site of the Etter Music Co. where Mr. Kinney purchased his partner's interest September 28, 1924. In October of the same year, Mr. Kinney moved to the Worley Building (now the L. & K. Cleaners) and thence on March 29, 1925 to his present location. The store is open 5½ days a week (closed Thursday afternoon) and features a complete line of mens' clothing, i.e., Curlee topcoats, Essley, Shapley and Arrow shirts, made-to-measure clothes by the English-American Tailoring Company, Lee hats and Portage shoes. Celebrating 40 years in business, the store has just been remodeled. This building is believed to have been built during the Civil War period and has housed the Charles Boehringer Butcher Shop and Pete Boehringer's Saloon.

L. & K. CLEANERS, 111 North High street, Phone 84.—All types dry cleaning, dyeing and repair work, rugs and draperies—Open six days a week from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m., Thursday till noon. "We Call For and Deliver." This reputable business is operated by Forrest Kimmel and "Bob" Harshbarger, the partnership being in effect since 1948. The business was founded in 1946 by Mr. Kimmel and Herbert Laughman, the latter selling his interests to Mr. Harshbarger. The present owners also operate a pick up and delivery service in West Milton (Phone West Milton 296-M or 325-M.) This building has previously housed the Belser-Maier Tailor Shop, Charles Miller Variety Store, Miles Simes' Grocery, an A. & P. Grocery, Kinney's Men's Shop and the George Worley Drug and Variety Store.

LAVY RADIO & TELEVISION SERVICE, R.R. 1, Covington, Phone 113-F-4—This business is located in the residence of Everett Lavy, Gettysburg road at the Range Line and offers complete service and repair with pick up and delivery service. Six years of experience provides expert service by Mr. Lavy, a graduate of the Coyne Electrical School.

LITTLE PRINTING COMPANY, 123 North High street, Phone 21, is owned and operated by Russell Little, who has been associated with the printing industry for 35 years and currently publishes the weekly Bradford Sentinel which was established by his father, Al Little, in 1884, giving this business a successive 69 years of operation. A. F. Little came to Covington from Bradford in 1917 and started a print

shop in the building now owned by the telephone company at the corner of Main and Wright streets. He purchased the present site in 1920 from H. W. Kendell. The weekly Covington Tribune Gazette was published by this enterprise from 1917 until 1936. Currently this printing shop is open six full days a week, employs four and excels in job printing of all descriptions.

LUDLOW STREET MARKET, 102 North Ludlow street, Phone 248 is owned and operated by Lawrence Hudson who came here in 1951 from Piqua where he operated a grocery for 20 years on the South Dixie Highway. This building and business, featuring White Villa fine foods, was built and started in 1946 by William Forsythe and is open six days a week.

MAE'S FASHION SHOP, 16 North High street—This building is owned by Maude Mae Driver with the business operating as a partnership between her and Laura Mae Shafer. The shop features a complete line of ladies clothes and infant wear, boasting such nationally known apparels as the Martha Manning dress, Mary Grey and Mojud hosiery and many others. The proprietors started their business in 1947 in the building now housing Draher's Radio and TV and moved to the present location in October of 1951. Both "Mae's" have many years' experience in this line and open their store 5½ days a week (closed Thursday afternoon.) Previous businesses in this building were the Ebrenz Bakery, Schilling Millinery, Freeman Chevrolet Agency, Shafer Shoe Store and Kroger Grocery. In 1850 this was the site of the J. E. Shellenberger Grocery.

MAIER'S SUPERMARKET, 102 South High street, Phone 68, is open from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. daily and Friday and Saturday until 9 p.m. This market carries a complete line of fine foods and meats and also operates a Frozen Locker Service. The present proprietor, "Vic" Maier, has operated the business since 1951 and is backed by 19 years of experience. The former proprietor, Walter Maier, first started in the grocery line working at the George Drees Grocery while still attending school. For eight years he clerked at the Shuman and Shafer Grocery (presently Hoover's Market). In 1917, Mr. Maier purchased a grocery at the present location from Birch and Weisheit, which he operated until 1922. In the fall of that year he started a grocery at the location of the Rueben Rike Blacksmith Shop, now the garage of C. D. Kellenbarger. In 1927, he moved back to the present location, replacing the grocery of A. W. Bull. He sold this market to his son, Victor in 1951 and retired. The Locker Plant, containing 566 full lockers and 70 half-lockers was founded by Walter Maier in 1946 and is still operated by him under the name of Maier's Locker Service.

The present Maier Market was built about 1870 by Mr. Lindsey who

operated a grocery store and sold beer in the back part of the premises. This has continuously been a grocery, Mr. Lindsey being succeeded by Charles Shuman and Charles Finrock, Mike Maier and Charles Finrock, Conrad Kreighbaum, George Drees, Don and Harold Drees, Birch and Weisheit, Walter Maier, Victor Wildermuth, George Stevens, A. W. Bull, Walter Maier and Victor Maier.

MARTIN JEWELERS, 19 North High street, Phone 282.—This business is owned by Fritz Martin and is one of a chain of five stores featuring a complete line of jewelry, watch and clock repairing and is currently managed by Walter Betts. The business was opened in 1947 with Alfred Carnahan as its manager. Six months later Mr. Betts became manager and now has nine years' experience in watch repairing. The store is open from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m., Saturday evening until 9 and is closed Thursday afternoon. This building formerly housed Mrs. Hill's Dress Shop and for many years was the residence of Mrs. Leonard.

MIAMI COUNTY DAIRY COMPANY, Corner of Bridge and Harrison street, Phone 36—On January 5, 1937, the Miami County Dairy Co. was first organized. A small, two-room cement-block factory owned by Mr. Minnich was soon to become the "dairy of today." On February 22, 1937 the dairy opened and bottled the first quart of milk. The men who were first to see this materialize were William H. Weaver, Paul Shaneyfelt, C. E. Shaneyfelt, Howard M. Giffin and Richard D. Baker. These became the first stockholders. The plant underwent remodeling in 1944 which included the erection of the present sales room and dairy bar, it being remodeled again in 1950. Today the plant employs more than 40 people with an additional 25 to 30 persons hired during the summer months. Eight delivery routes move a complete line of dairy products to the surrounding area. In 1946 the company extensively entered into the ice cream field and today the tremendous demand for their ice cream, popsicles, etc., cannot be equalled in the area. Present stockholders are Paul Shaneyfelt, R. D. Baker, H. M. Giffin, C. E. Shaneyfelt, Phoebe Baker, Dorothy Giffin, Gertrude Weaver, G. R. Minnich, Charles E. Case, Scott A. Ingle, Robert Etter and M. H. Westfall.

MILLER INSURANCE AGENCY, 15 North High street, Phone 17 is open from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. six days a week and is owned by Forest V. Miller who offers a complete line of auto, fire and casualty insurance. This business room was originally part of the Leonard residence and later became a barber shop operated in turn, by John Gyer, Ed Reish, Sam Barnhardt and Lester Neth. The Richardson Insurance Agency came next, followed by the Miles Simes Insurance Agency, the present owner purchasing that business in 1944.

MILLER DAIRY SERVICE, Walnut street, Phone 39 is owned and operated by "Johnny" Miller, Sanders Dairy representative for the Covington-Bradford district. "Johnny" got his start in the milk business working on a local route for Howard Giffin and then operating a route in Piqua before building his present business here in 1940. "Johnny" boasts a complete line of dairy products, caters to special orders with party service a specialty.

MILLER'S MARKET, 157 South High street, Phone 52 is and has been owned and operated by Norman Miller since 1945 and offers a complete line of fine foods and meats—Free Delivery Service. Mr. Miller is well acquainted with this line of business, having worked 16 years at the J. L. Hoover Grocery. At the present time "Bub" also serves the community as assistant chief of police. Originally this was the site of the George Boehringer Grocery, the Sam Rensch Grocery, Carol Flory's Grocery and the Miller Market.

MILLER MOTOR SERVICE, 150 North High street, Phone 300, does not operate gasoline pumps although it excels in mechanical repair of all types, grease jobs, oil changes, using Kendall Motor Oil—motor tuneups a specialty. This establishment is owned and operated by Charles Miller who boasts 38 years of experience in the automotive repair industry. Mr. Miller previously operated a variety store in the building currently occupied by the L. & K. Cleaners, was employed at the J. H. Hecker Garage and for 21 years owned and operated his own garage in Troy. "Charlie" opened his business here in 1949. This building was erected by J. W. Martin about 1905 for his own implement store which was followed by the John Hecker Tinning business, John Ingle & Son Plumbing, Dan Shellabarger's Implement store and the Paff Hatchery. The edifice was used during World War II as a USO headquarters.

NICHOLAS GARAGE, South Main street, Phone 191, is owned and operated by William Nicholas and has been an authorized agency for Silver King Tractors since 1936. Currently "Bill" does automotive repair as well as tractor work and operates Covington's oldest continuous mechanical repair business. Mr. Nicholas was originally employed in the trade by the Meyer Motor Sales in 1920. In 1931 he formed a partnership with John Powell in the Ford Garage, this partnership dissolving in 1934 with Mr. Nicholas continuing in business for himself. "Bill" erected the building and moved to the present site in 1937 and is currently starting his 33rd year at the trade, his 22nd as a businessman.

NORTH HIGH BEAUTY SHOP, 529 North High street, Phone 16 features Rilling Machineless, Realistic and Royette cold waves, soapless

shampoos and finger waves. This business was founded February 20, 1945 by Kathryn Rudy, a 1944 graduate of Bird's Beauty School in Dayton.

PEARSON INSURANCE AGENCY, R.R. 1, Covington, Phone 408-F-5—Russell R. Pearson is your local agent for a complete line of Farm Bureau Insurance. Mr. Pearson has been in this field since the start of the company in 1926, giving him 27 years of insurance experience.

ROUTZAHN FUNERAL HOME, 10 South High street, Phone 27—Presently a partnership between Walter Routzahn and Ned Pearson. Mr. Pearson served as an apprentice here in 1946-47, attending Cincinnati College of Embalming and graduating from there in 1949 when he received his funeral director and embalmers license. The current partnership was entered into in 1950. Walter Routzahn, the senior member of the firm, started in the business working for his father in Farmersville, Ohio and received his license in 1906. For the next six years he was associated with his father, then moving to New Philadelphia for one year with the James Lynn firm. Walter came to Covington in the fall of 1914 and purchased the Whitmer Brothers furniture and undertaking business located in the building currently occupied by the Covington Motor Sales. In 1912, Elmer Routzahn, a brother, purchased the David Landis undertaking business, then located in the house now occupied by Richard Etter, gunsmith. These two businesses were combined in 1914 and continued as such until 1932 when, after the death of his brother, Walter assumed control of the business. In 1935 he disposed of the furniture line but continued the undertaking business, moving in 1941 to his present location which was his residence, purchased in 1921 from the Dr. Weaver estate.

S. J. RUDY & SONS, Main Office on Grant street, Phone 188.—This grain elevator business was founded by S. J. Rudy in 1899 on the site which is now the Covington Hardware Store. He was the successor to Ezekiel Kendell. This business burned down March 13, 1900 and in that same year, Mr. Rudy built the present elevator and operated it in partnership with his brother-in-law, Sam Welbaum. Mr. S. J. Rudy assumed sole ownership of this elevator in 1901 and actively operated the business until 1921 when he retired. James A. Rudy and Albert Rudy conducted the business from 1921 until 1928 when S. J. Rudy returned and the partnership of S. J. Rudy, James Rudy, Albert Rudy and William Rudy was formed. This same year they purchased three elevators from the Myers & Patty Co. One was in Covington on Hazel street, being moved there in 1926 from Abe Station by the Myers & Patty Co., another was in Pleasant Hill and the third in Ludlow Falls. This partnership operated until 1938 when George Rudy entered the

partnership, replacing Alva Rudy whose death occurred that year. In 1939 they erected the monolithic concrete elevators on Hazel street which have a 125,000 bushel capacity. On March 29, 1950, Mr. S. J. Rudy passed away and the business has since operated as the partnership of James, Albert, William and George Rudy. At the present time the business consists of four elevators, two in Covington, one in Pleasant Hill and one in Ludlow Falls.

SELLMAN FURNITURE COMPANY, 23 North High street, Phone 181 is owned and operated by the Sellman family who came here in 1938 and are currently operating one of the largest retail furniture outlets in this area. They feature nationally advertised furniture, appliances and carpeting. The company also owns a warehouse on Bridge street which in the past has served as a tobacco warehouse and a bakery. The business is open from 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily except Thursday when they close at noon. Prior to coming here, Mr. Reuben Sellman operated a furniture store in Piqua. This building previously housed the Drees, Neth & Co. which was founded by Henry Drees in 1863. In 1864, Daniel Face became a partner. In 1876, Conrad Neth and G. W. Miller became partners, the firm taking the name of Drees, Miller & Neth until 1882 when Conrad Kriehbaum succeeded Mr. Miller, the business then operating as Drees Neth & Co. Sometime later, A. B. Routson was a member of the firm. In more recent times, "Mike" Drees operated a tailor shop here. (In 1880 and for some years Drees, Neth & Co. occupied two adjoining rooms, the Sellman room for a large stock of groceries and the present telephone office for a display of dry goods, boots, shoes, clothing, etc. The upper story was used as a tailor shop where suits were made to order.

SHADE'S SOHIO SERVICE, Northwest corner of High street and Broadway, Phone 288 is open seven days a week from 7 a.m. until 10 p.m. featuring Standard Oil products and automotive repair. The business is operated by Ivor Shade who took over the station in November of 1947. Mr. Shade formerly worked at Williams' Garage and has 30 years' experience in the automotive line. This was the original site of W. C. Shuman's "Panhandle Grocery." It was also the location of Joe Marlin's printing shop and newspaper and filling stations operated by Frank Weer and Harry Fisher, Ray Martin, Frank Young, Louie Beeman, Lawrence Alexander and probably many others. The Buckeye Overall Company, currently at Versailles, started here on the second floor of the former building.

SHADY REST NURSING HOME, One-half mile west of town on route 36, Phone 111, is owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Buckley who came here from Dayton and opened the rest home in June of 1952. Mrs. Buckley has seven years of experience caring for

patients which she gained while employed by the Reeves Rest Home in Dayton. This clean and pleasant establishment has been inspected and approved by the Miami County Board of Health, State Department of Social Administration and by representatives of the state fire marshall. Mrs. Buckley is equipped to handle and properly care for 20 adult patients and furnishes radio and television for their comfort. Visiting days are Tuesday, Thursday and Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m.

SHAFER & BOEHRINGER, West Spring street—General repair work, blacksmithing, plow work, electric welding, grinding of all kinds. Open 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. six days a week. This building was erected about 1838, being the Baptist church, the first church in Covington. After its discontinuation, the building was used for tobacco storage from 1898 to 1901. It had also been rented for a short time by the non-progressive branch of the German Baptist church. In 1901 the building was purchased by the Joulerette Buggy Manufacturing Co., this firm erecting a building adjoining the structure on the west. In 1902 a fire destroyed the west building and part of the church and ended the buggy manufacturing business. In 1903 the old church building was purchased by Chris Shafer who remodeled it and started a blacksmith shop which he operated until 1913. In that year, C. H. Shafer and Ed Boehringer formed the partnership that still exists today. Mr. Boehringer, a blacksmith of 50 years, started his career at the J. P. Johnson Blacksmith Shop on South High street, now the residence of Mrs. Mart Minnich. After 10 years here, he entered the present business. Mr. C. H. Shafer is also a blacksmith with 50 years in the trade, starting his career under his grandfather, Chris Shafer, at the present location. He later worked for John Kreighbaum in Pleasant Hill.

SHAFER'S POULTRY FARM, North High street, Phone Piqua 985-M or call at the poultry farm evenings and Saturday for eggs, chickens and broilers on foot. Thirty years of experience back the proprietor, Clyde Shafer Jr., who took over the business in 1952. For 40 years previous, it was the Roy Shellabarger Hatchery.

SHAFER' SHOE STORE, 106 North High street, handles a complete line of men's, women's, and children's shoes and is managed by Miss Miriam Shafer, daughter of the late Mr. Elmer Shafer. Mr. Elmer Shafer started his career as an employee in the George Worley Store. In 1918 he started his own shoe store in the building now occupied by Crawford's Plumbing Shop. While in business here, he purchased the Charles Boyer shoe stock and for a short time operated both places. Eventually he sold the Boyer stock and subsequently moved his shoe store to the Freeman building, now Mae's Fashion Shop. He later purchased the Sherman Corbin Music Store (more recently the

Arthur Himes Jewelry Store) and while engaged in business here, rented the the adjoining room to the north (the present location of the Shafer Shoe Store) from the Jacob Weidner estate and here established a 5 & 10 cent store which he operated until 1931 when he moved the shoe business to the present location. Since his death in 1949 the business has been operated by Miss Miriam Shafer. These rooms, from 1866 to 1899, housed the Jacob Weidner Hardware Store. Since that time it has been the location of the N. R. Rensch and Will Rensch Hudson Automobile Sales, the Shafer 5 and 10 cent store and the current shoe store.

SHUFF'S RESTAURANT, 107 North High street, Phone 244 is owned and operated seven days a week from 5:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. by Russell Shuff who came here in 1946 and purchased the business from Harley Rhynard. This establishment excells in "home-cooked" meals and also serves short orders. The building is believed to have been built by "Hickory Bill" Routson and has housed the Oliver Younce restaurant, Maier & Belser tailor shop, J. V. Metzger Harness shop, Marlin printing shop, Helen Sheets' restaurant, Rhynard restaurant and the present owners

SMITH BARBER SERVICE, 6 East Wright street—The proprietor, Clyde Smith, learned his trade under "Red" Julian in 1927. He then barbered at the Douglas Hotel in Urbana, coming to Covington in 1929 with Donald Pence and purchasing the shop operated by Lester Neth in the "old hotel building." In September of 1929, Lester Neth entered the business as a third partner and the firm moved to the present location. Donald Pence left the business in 1931 and "Smitty" purchased Lester Neth's interests in 1934. For one year he employed Carl Pieffer who left in 1935 to go to Florida for his health, but passed away five days after arriving in the southern state. For several years Frank Brown was employed on weekends. Previous occupants here were —Miller variety store, Mrs. Townsend's Millinery and the Richeson bicycle shop.

SNELL'S SERVICE STATION, Southwest corner of High street and Broadway, Phone 315 features a complete line of Gulf products, lubrication service, automotive repair and car washing. Dale Snell purchased this business in November of 1952 from Roger Draher. Mr. Snell has 18 years' experience in mechanical work and currently operates his business seven days a week. Dale served the Air Force in World War II as an airplane engine mechanic. A service station has been operated here by Ted Shellabarger, Wayne Wilk, Keith Langston, Bill and Bob Paff and Roger Draher. In earlier times, this corner was the site of a restaurant, operated by Ramer Jones, Dewey Gibboney, —Hartman, "Dutch" Smith and possibly a few others.

STILLWATER EXCAVATING COMPANY, Grant street, Phone 103, was formed in 1951 with Carl Miller and Robert Gearhardt as partners with Mr. Miller currently the sole owner. Carl directs the general excavation work, bulldozer and heavy equipment work and operates a gravel pit on route 55. Mr. Miller served with the Seabees during World War II and formerly operated Miller's Recreation Room and bowling alleys.

STREIB'S PLUMBING, 7 North High street, Phone 208 or 176-R. This store is open from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m., Saturday till 10 and handles plumbing fixtures, heating units, electrical appliances and expertly performs sheet metal work and general plumbing work. The proprietor is Chalmers "Ike" Streib who has 20 years' experience in the plumbing business. The building was erected by Dr. M. R. Shellabarger, the second medical doctor in Covington, sometime between 1844 and 1850. He conducted a drug store here and was succeeded in 1858 by the D. C. Shellabarger Hardware and Plumbing; Shellabarger and Ullery Hardware and Plumbing, B. Aspinall Hardware and from 1937 to the present time by Geo. J. Streib & Son Plumbing. The third floor of this building has been a printing office, Junior Lodge, dentists's office and a dwelling.

TEXACO SERVICE STATION, 611 East Broadway, Phone 98 is open seven days a week from 8 a.m. until 9 p.m. offering a complete line of Texaco products. Generator and starter service a specialty. Mr. Lawrence Alexander, the proprietor, has repaired generators since 1920 and prior to coming here in 1939 operated two service stations in Dayton. He formerly operated a Texaco station at the northwest corner of High street and Broadway. Mr. Alexander is a veteran of World War I. He erected the present building in 1948.

*** WARNER DAIRY SERVICE**, 404 East Walnut street, Phone 168. Since 1948, Mr. Emerson Warner has been the local distributor of Miami County Dairy Products. This milk route has previously been operated, in succession, by Harry Gibboney, Howard Giffin, Robert Sheets, John Mutzher and Emerson Warner. Also at this same address (404 Walnut), Mrs. Emerson Warner operates the **Blue Bird Beauty Shop** five days week. This business was established in 1932 by the proprietor, a graduate of Warner's Beauty School, Ft. Wayne, Ind.

WEAVER'S BARBER SHOP, 192 North High street, Phone 118—Complete barber service every day except Thursday afternoon by Virgil Weaver, a barber of 29 years, who came to Covington from Troy in 1949. The building was built by Henry Drees about 1880 for Mr. Schloss, who operated a tavern here. The building has also housed a theater, pool room, shoe store, Gibboney Auto Agency, Ivor Shafer

grocery, Joe Hoover grocery and for many years a dwelling. This was the scene of Marshall Harvey Hake's murder in 1917.

WESTERVILLE CREAMERY COMPANY, 400 Hazel street, Phone 20 is presently Covington's largest industry, at peak season employing about 125 people. Some 60 trucks haul milk from 10 counties to be processed by the most modern equipment which has a daily handling capacity of 700,000 pounds. Last year, this plant had an average intake of ten and one-half million pounds of milk per month. The main products of this establishment are canned evaporated milk and powdered milk. Some 120 different brands of milk are canned here for wholesale and retail business with the local establishment selling their own product under the labels of Miami Valley, Da-Lee, Spring Farm, Shady Nook and Ruth Ann. Other products are Spring Farm and Shady Nook packaged powders and Can-O-Skim, condensed skim milk. A fleet of 10 tractor-trailor rigs move Westerville products over the entire Eastern United States; this in addition to the many railroad cars that carry the products to various parts of the country. The main offices of the creamery are located in Westerville, Ohio where a bottling plant is operated, although the products of the Westerville dairy may be purchased at the sales room of the local plant. The Westerville Creamery was founded by W. B. Johnston in 1900, the local plant dating its origin about 1919 when it located here after burning out in Bradford the previous year. Prior to this the present location housed an artificial ice and coal business which was founded



Artificial Ice Plant about 1910. Now The Westerville Creamery Company.

about 1907. Shortly after coming here, the current firm started bottling milk but discontinued this in 1937. The ice business was disposed of in 1946. The firm started powdering milk as early as 1932, the present powder mill being installed in 1941. The two huge warehouses were built in 1950-51 and also in 1951 the company purchased the Belle Center Creamery at Belle Center, Ohio which is now a receiving station. The plant here is currently managed by Russell Johnston, son of the founder and graduate of Ohio State University, who took charge in 1937. Mr. Johnston served as a captain in the U.S. Army during World War II, seeing action in the South Pacific. He is currently president of the village council.

WEST OHIO TELEPHONE COMPANY, 21 North High street, originated in June of 1900 as the Covington Home Telephone Co. with the principal stockholders being A. J. Vernier, J. S. Corwin, John P. Rorick, George Probeck, J. L. Goodnight, John Weaver and L. E. Simes. Miss Ethel Purdy was the first operator, caring for 75 telephones which cost subscribers \$1 per month, (\$2 for business). In October of 1900, toll lines were built to Versailles, Troy, Piqua and Bradford. Local rural lines were constructed as fast as money became available. In 1907 the Pleasant Hill Telephone Co. was purchased and in 1913 the company took over the business of the Western Union Telegraph Co. and changed their name to The Stillwater Telephone and Telegraph Co. In September of 1950 the property of the St. Paris Telephone Co. was acquired and the name changed to The West Ohio Telephone Co. The first manager was L. E. Simes who was succeeded in 1917 by S. A. Kraus and he by Walter Carlson in 1950.

Previous occupants of the present business office were Ed and Lou Simes' grocery, Dan Knoop and Pete Thomas bakery, Pete Thomas, and more recently the Davis 5 and 10 cent store and the W. C. Mack 5 and 10 cent store. (In the early years, this building was adjoined with the store now occupied by the Sellman Furniture Co. and housed the Drees, Neth & Co. dry goods.)

WRIGHT'S MERCHANDISE MART, 17 South High street, Phone 237-R.—The present business was established in 1937 by Dallas Wright as a barber shop which was discontinued in 1949. He presently buys, sells and trades sporting goods and sells ice cream, cigarettes, candies, etc. from 8 a.m. until 10 p.m. six days a week. This building was first occupied by James Quinters who printed and published "The Gospel Visitor" in 1866. This magazine is still being published, but under the caption "The Gospel Messenger." Next came the Henry Curtz jewelry store, Will Yount's butcher shop, a hat shop, and in more recent times, Clint Peiffer's electric and bicycle repair shop and the Johnson Ice Cream Parlor.

ZIMMERMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE, Corner of High and Wright streets.—Prior to the erection of the present building, this was the location of the Thomas Worley Drug Store which was a small frame building erected in 1856. Mr. Worley built the present building during the Civil War period. This was later the T. A. Worley and Son Drug Store with Dr. Hall, a dentist, renting the upstairs for his office about 1890. The store operated as T. A. Worley and Son for many years, being better known in the later years as the George Worley Department and Drug Store. In 1850, a post office was located at this site. Mr. Paul Zimmerman, owner of the present general merchandise business, entered the building in 1932 and has continually engaged in business there. The building is owned by John R. Piper.

The foregoing Business Directory is a form of paid advertisement and is therefore incomplete although comprising about 90 per cent of those doing business in Covington today. It is difficult to ascertain all the business of yesteryear and almost as impossible to find the correct year they were in operation as many were short-lived and some merely fronts for rum runners and bootleggers. For this reason, the authors will not be liable for any information received by word of mouth. Many things can be assumed about the early business but this book does not deal with assumptions.



Dunham's Barber Shop—About 1910 (Now occupied by Crawford's Appliance). Left to Right—Ed Link, Joe Hoover and Grant Coleman (seated); Dave Moyer and Roy Shellabarger, Lee Dunham, Lewis Davis, Frank Dunham, Henry Tucker, Frank Miller and Rudolph Schuman.

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